

August, 2018

Welcome Back Broadwater Families!

I hope you all had a fantastic summer. Your Broadwater Staff has been working hard to prepare for the upcoming year. We hope to see you all at the Open House/BBQ on Monday, August 27!

Open House/BBQ- Our Open House and BBQ are scheduled for **Monday, August 27**. The teachers will be greeting students and families from 4:30-5:30. The BBQ will start at 5:00 and end at 6:00. Please try to be here to meet your child's teacher! We so look forward to meeting the students ahead of time and I know they like setting up their desks and/or areas! Please call me (324-1123) if you could give 30 minutes of your time that evening, or sign up on the online volunteer site. www.volunteersignup.org/ELJY8

We can always use more help! Please bring lawn chairs or blankets if you think you want to eat outside. We are all hoping that the roof construction is complete by that day! If there are any changes, I will let you know next week. The BBQ will be set up in the back by the entrance to the gym. The condiments will be downstairs. You are welcome to eat in the gym, or to head outside if the weather is nice. We have a wonderful school community here at Broadwater. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you and meeting our new families! There will be a small cost for the BBQ. The charge will be \$3.00/person or \$12.00/family. **PLEASE RSVP** to Brittney Grigg at 324-1130. The RSVP will help us in planning! Thank you! We want EVERYONE to come to the BBQ, so if you need assistance with the cost, please call me! 324-1123

September is ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH! As always, we are trying very hard to improve our attendance and tardies and be IN SCHOOL, ON TIME, EVERY DAY! Last year, our excessive absences improved, but we did not reach our goal. We are really trying hard to have 10% or less of our students have excessive absences. **Last school year, 16% of our students missed 16 or more days of school, which is considered excessive.** Did you know that if your child misses an average of one day per week of school over his/her elementary years, they will miss over 2 years of instruction?! It adds up! Missing school means your child may have large gaps in knowledge and understanding, loss of opportunities for play, social interaction, and friendship development, and a lack of continuity which may result in feelings of less security in a school environment. Research also shows that elementary students who miss a great deal of school are more likely to drop out when they reach high school. We want your kids here! Thanks for your help on this very important matter! We will also be making many more phone calls and efforts to get your kids here if tardies and absences add up. Please help us with this very important issue!

School Hours - ALL students will be attending school from **8:30-3:15**. Please remember that we use every nook and cranny as teaching spaces, so arriving too early to pick up your kids after school can sometimes be quite disruptive. Please do not come to pick your kids up until the dismissal time of 3:15. Much appreciated! If your child has a sibling at C.R. Anderson, please remind them that they are not to come into Broadwater until our dismissal time of 3:15. Thank you! Please remember that all outside doors will be locked except our main entry doors.

Monday Early Release Day-EVERY Monday school will be dismissed at 2:30. The teachers will be using the time after school to work as Professional Learning Communities. We will be working hard to bring the best possible instruction to your child every single day! Students will be dismissed for recess at 2:20 on these Mondays and you may pick up your child at 2:30. Please remember that we only have supervision on the playground in the back, so all students will be in the back of the building.

Homework Folders-We will be using Homework Folders again this year to help our students BE RESPONSIBLE and BE A LEARNER! Each class has a different colored folder. Please help your student stay organized by asking for the folder each night, cleaning it out, and returning it to school the next morning!

Cell Phones/Wrist Phones: More and more of our students seem to be coming to school with phones. Please go over the cell phone rules with your child. Cell phones are NOT to be used at all during the day. It is easiest to have your child's teacher keep the phone until the end of the day. If your child keeps his/her phone in a backpack, we cannot guarantee its safety and it is also tempting to use the phone or send texts during the day. Phones are also not

to be used on the playground after school. When students leave the school and are heading home, they are welcome to call then if necessary. **Students waiting for busses are not to be on their phones on the playground.** If your child's phone gets taken away for not following the rules, you will have to come to the office to pick it up. Thanks for your help with this!

Parent Council: WE NEED YOU! Our Parent Council is an amazing group of people. Whether or not you want to help once, twice, or every day, we want to get to know you! Please check the Parent Council bulletin board located in the front lobby near the office for the latest happenings. We also have a facebook page! Check it out! Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/broadwaterpto/>

You can also check out meeting minutes and PTO news by accessing information through this link on the Helena Schools website:

Broadwater PTO button link: <http://broadwater.helenaschools.org/about/parent-teacher-organization/>

The Parent Council also has their own website located at www.BroadwaterPTC.com. Check it out!

Do you shop Amazon? If so, you can easily help our Parent Council! Please go to smile.amazon.com and select Broadwater Elementary School Parent Teacher Council and Amazon will make a donation to the Parent Council every time you shop! Thanks for remembering this very easy way to help our kids.

School Supply Lists: I have also attached the school supply lists on this email. We were told that some of the stores had only printed the first page and some of our classes were missing. Sorry about the inconvenience!

School Supply Help: If you need assistance with school supplies, please come to the school on **Monday, August 27 from 4:00-6:00 PM**. The supply lists will be here. Monday is the same night as the BBQ so I hope this is convenient for you all!

First Day of School for Grades 1-5: Wednesday, August 29. We can't wait to see you all!

First Day for Kindergarten: Tuesday, September 4. This is such an exciting time for our kindergarten students! I know that emotions are high on this day for both parents and students. PLEASE remember that it really is easier on both the teachers and the students if you take your pictures, give a big hug, and go! Kindergarten students do very well, despite our own apprehensions. We are so looking forward to **Family Home Visits August 29-31!** Please help us by scheduling your appointments as soon as possible! You won't believe how excited kindergarten students are to host their NEW teacher at their home! Our teachers, Mrs. LeBrun and Mrs. Sexton have been calling to schedule home visits. If they have left you a message, please return that call and get that visit scheduled. Thank you!

Monthly Calendar/Newsletter: Each month a calendar and newsletter will be posted on the Broadwater website and emailed to families who have provided their email addresses. Please watch for these! I try to include all field trips and events, so refer to it often! If you do not have access to internet, please let me know and I will send paper copies.

APTT Meetings/Parent Teacher Conferences: This year, our APTT funds have been cut, so we are trying to combine our meetings with our Parent Teacher Conferences. We are still working out the logistics, but we will definitely keep you posted. Data shows that working with parents in teams made a huge difference! Please watch for announcements regarding conferences and meetings!

Holiday Program: It seems crazy to be talking about this already, but we are going to do our program a little differently this year so I wanted you all to mark your calendars. This year, we will be having ONE SHOW at the HMS auditorium. The program will be at 1:00 and there's plenty of room for all! No tickets this year! Please mark your calendar for **Wednesday, December 12 at 1:00.**

Broadwater Handbook: Please look for the Broadwater Handbook which will come home on the first day of school. The handbook lists everything you need to know about how we do things at Broadwater. Please read through it!

Broadwater Staff for 2018-2019

Principal: Mrs. Sue Sweeney
Secretary: Mrs. Brittany Grigg
Kindergarten: Mrs. Riann Sexton
Kindergarten: Miss Talor LeBrun
First Grade: Mrs. Carmen Schillinger
First Grade: Mrs. Meghan Cohn
Second Grade: Mrs. Jessica Sichelstiel
Primary Montessori: Mrs. Rebekah Harris
Primary Montessori: Ms. Beth Smaka
Grade 2/3 Multiage: Mr. Caleb Feuerstein
Third Grade: Mrs. Marilyn Barta
Fourth Grade: Mrs. Heather Higgins
Grade 4/5 Multiage: Mrs. Chelsea Kingston
Fifth Grade: Ms. Paula Hovley
Intermediate Montessori: Mrs. Jodi Delaney
Custodians: Mr. Kevin Ophus, Mr. Harold Voegel

Kitchen: Denise Cartisser, Jean-Luc Reichert
CSCT: Ms. Chelsie Sampayan, Ms. Lauren Bergman
Speech: Ms. Christine Trefzger
Psychologist: Ms. Cara Heath
Title I: Mrs. Ann Swenson/Mrs. Kristie Baerlocher
School Counselor: Ms. K.C. Richem
Special Education: Mrs. Kayla Fotheringham
Librarian: Ms. Marla Unruh
Music: Miss Jennifer Skogley
P.E.: Mr. Mike Alberts
Para-Educators: Mrs. Joyce Dibble
Mrs. Amy Briley, Mrs. Lisa Thompson,
Mrs. Madelyn Thomas, Mrs. Stephanie Strizich,
Mrs. Marsha Alsbury, Mrs. Kimberly Damiano
Nurse: Ms. Francis Leonard
SACC: Jessica Backen, Kim Roehm, Madelyn Thomas

As always, my door is always open and I look forward to seeing/meeting you all. My direct office line is 324-1123. My cell is 431-2431.

See you soon!

Mrs. Sweeney