



FROM PRINCIPAL AHL

With the first week of the school year behind us, I am very happy to report that the 2017-2018 school year is off to a phenomenal start. Judging from the exciting discussions taking place in our classrooms throughout the first few days I expect that children will be engaged in a great deal very exciting learning opportunities throughout the school year!

We will all continue to settle in during this next week and we now look forward to this Wednesday's Back-to-School Night (see below for times). We invite all parents to come and hear from your children's teachers (and briefly from our counselor, the PTA leadership and from me!). We cannot effectively do our jobs without your support and without ensuring that we are all on the same page, working as a team. Your attendance at Back-to-School Night will help you to be informed and involved in the way that we need to help us provide the best education to your children. We also count on you reading our newsletters, checking our website for updates, and making sure that you are familiar with our school handbook. Thank you for playing such an essential role in the academic, social, and emotional development of your child or children. We simply cannot do it without you!

Need a question answered? Bookmark and visit the FAQ page on our website to navigate the school year easily: <http://www.oakparkusd.org/Page/9409> Here's to a GREAT year ahead!

Sincerely,

Sara Ahl

UPCOMING EVENTS

8/16	BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT (all grades, no students)
8/19	PTA Welcome Back Family Movie Night: Moana 6pm-9:30pm
8/23	PTA General Association Meeting 8:30 a.m. in the MPR
8/28	Picture Day
9/4	NO SCHOOL (Labor Day)
9/7	OPUSD Book Talk (OPHS Pavilion 7pm)
9/21	NO SCHOOL (Local Holiday)
9/28-29	Reflections Art Program "Within Reach" Submissions Due (before school)
9/29	Yearbook Cover Contest Due

Back to School Night is this Wednesday, August 16th!

Back to School Night is this Wednesday, August 16th! Visit your child's classroom and hear from the teacher. Join us in the MPR for a parent meeting as well. Please note that this event is for parents only.

- Grades DK - 2: 5:30pm - 6:15pm
- All-Parent Meeting in MPR (Grades DK-5): 6:20pm - 7:00pm
- Grades 3 - 5: 7:05pm - 7:50pm

NEED TO DROP OFF YOUR KIDS? Kids World in Oak Park is offering a special Brookside rate for the Back to School Night. For \$25 for the first child and \$20 for each additional sibling, parents can drop off at 5:00pm and pick up at 8:00pm. The special Brookside rate for this night only also includes unlimited game card for the arcade and a laser tag game!

Don't Miss Our Big Welcome-Back-to-School Family Event!

Join Us for Movie Night on Saturday, August 19th!

Look for more information on ParentSquare coming soon! Please be sure to RSVP on ParentSquare so we can gauge headcount for planning purposes. See you there!



**BROOKSIDE PTA's
ANNUAL MOVIE NIGHT!**
Saturday, August 19th @ 6pm

Food Trucks! Popcorn! Shaved Ice! Candy! Photo Booth! Limbo!
DRESS UP in your favorite Hawaiian/tropical gear!

*Movie is **FREE** and **begins at 7:30 PM***

Bring your blankets, low back chairs, flashlights and cash for concessions.
NO PETS OR ALCOHOL PERMITTED

This is NOT a drop-off event (children must be supervised by parents)!



Picture Day is August 28th!

Mark your calendars! Monday, August 28th is Picture Day. Lifetouch packets will be sent home with more information as the date gets closer!

Growing Outdoors After-School Enrichment: Registration is OPEN through August 29th!

Growing Outdoors has put together a variety of after-school exploratories designed to best serve the Brookside community. Take a look at the course offerings - we are sure there is something that's a great fit! Registration ends on Tuesday, August 29th!

<http://growingoutdoors.com/brookside-exploratories>

Basic Overview

- Fall Trimester Exploratories will begin the week of Tuesday, September 5th.
- Exploratories will last for roughly 8 weeks.
- Classes will be offered Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week.
- Classes will be divided into three age groups: Kindergarten, 1st-3rd, & 4th-5th grades.

FROM THE OFFICE

Parking Reminders & Campus Safety

- Please allow plenty of time in the mornings and make sure to arrive early if you are parking and walking your student in.
- You may park in the areas marked on Satinwood and Conifer.
- The parking lot is reserved for Brookside teachers and staff **ONLY**
- Please do not park in the parking lot and observe all **RESERVED** parking signs and access signs.
- Please observe the Reserved parking signs for our PTA President, Auction Winner and Handicap Access drivers (*please only use these spots when you have the affected person with you in the vehicle*).
- Please do not park in the red marked lanes, next to fire hydrants or in front of our neighbors' mailboxes. Do not move trash cans on trash day.
- Use crosswalks as they have crossing guards.
- Observe "no parking" signs on the street, particularly near crosswalks; offenders are subject to ticketing.

Thank you for your help in ensuring a safe and smooth transition. You may find all Brookside Parking and Traffic Safety Rules [HERE](#).

ParentSquare Registration

ParentSquare is the school & PTA's amazing communication system sponsored by the PTA and used by all classes and our PTA; it eliminates multiple platforms by centralizing all school-related communications, sign-ups, flyers, photos, calendars into one secure location. New families: please be sure you register when you receive the invitation sent by Principal Ahl via email! You may download the free ParentSquare app on your mobile app store or simply go into your web browser and add to your device's home screen. You will be placed into your classes and receive an invitation this week. Simply accept the invitation and set-up a password and click on "My Account" to change notification settings.

ParentSquare Directory: Please note we do NOT have a printed directory. Take a moment to click on your email in "My Account" to render it as visible; all emails are currently hidden. You must elect to have your email visible if you wish to have it visible in the ParentSquare directory.

FROM THE BROOKSIDE PTA



Just for the Kids: Let's Meet Our Goal!

The Brookside PTA would like to take this opportunity to say *THANK YOU* to all of our generous families for supporting our annual giving campaign "Just for the Kids-Give to Grow." From Forms Day, we have \$95,000 in pledges with less than half our families participating. We are well on our way to achieving our Just for the Kids-Give to Grow goal of \$120,000 and if you have not had the opportunity to donate, we hope that you will consider giving.



What is Just for the Kids?

Just for the Kids is the Brookside PTA's largest annual fundraiser--there is nothing to buy or sell; it is just a direct tax-deductible donation towards the numerous salaries and programs that benefit your student during the school year. While a public school education is free, an enriched education is not. OPUSD is one of the top districts academically, but as we don't have the demographics that meet the criteria for additional funding, we are at the bottom of the state funding ladder. For more information on how state funding works, please visit www.ed100.org. The PTA funds many of the programs and services your children directly benefit from, such as:

- **SALARIES for:**
 - over 2,500 hours of classroom aide time—and so much more.
 - our music specialist and grade-level performances
 - our computer specialist and computer lab supplies
 - additional math enrichment instructional aide
 - extra yard duty supervision
- Lunchtime Enrichment (CReATE art, Lego Buildzone, Sports and Fitness, Library Book Cart, and littleBits)
- Artist in Residence (ArtTrek Inc., and other art vendors)

- Over 50 programs: Spelling Bee, Science Fair, Reflections, Run Club, etc.
- Classroom supplies & so much MORE!

We would *not* be able to provide these programs and services without your generous support. The Brookside PTA is a 501©(3) organization, and your donations are tax deductible. Please check with your company's HR department to see if your company matches to double your donation.

Check Out Our “Paw-Some” Display on the MPR Windows!

Every student whose family donated is recognized on our window display with their name and grade on a paw print. Please be sure to stop by on Back To School Night! We are counting on 100% participation!

I Would Like to Donate!

If you didn't have the opportunity to do so yet — *it is not too late*. Simply click [HERE](#) to donate. Let's get our participation level to 100%. Every donation counts, and together we can do more. *We appreciate any amount that meets your family's budget.* THANK YOU for investing in your student!

1st General Association PTA Meeting: Wednesday, August, 23rd

Please join us at our first general association meeting of the year at 8:30am in the MPR; we will be approving the year's planned programs, fundraisers, and budget. Please note that only PTA members may vote. Please see below on how to join!

Support Your Child & Brookside: Join the Brookside PTA

We invite every parent, teacher and neighbor to join with PTA, as we work to make Brookside the best it can be for our students!

The easiest way to become involved in your child's educational experience is to have a voice. The Brookside PTA gives you that voice. It allows you to be a part of all decisions affecting over 60 programs currently being funded by the PTA Brookside.

For only \$10 per member you can have an important vote. Dues support the PTA and its numerous programs. The easiest way to join is ONLINE! Membership can be paid by completing the PTA form online or downloading the manual form [HERE](#). Forms can also be found in the workroom if you wish to pay by check. Please return manual membership forms to staff workroom in the box labeled “PTA Membership.” Note: You must be a PTA member to vote and serve on the Executive Board. Questions: Please contact Virginia Rosenthal, VP of Membership at besptamembership@gmail.com

Bookmark These Brookside Links!

- [Brookside Families FAQ/Checklist](#) (GREAT for New BES Families!)
- [Brookside Handbook](#)
- [Brookside Home Page](#)
- [Pre-Pay for Lunches](#)
- [BES PTA Information](#)

Order Brookside Spirit Wear Online by 8/26!

Please check out our **NEW Brookside Tiger Spirit Wear** online [HERE](#). Please place your orders online; all orders will be shipped to the school and distributed to your student's classroom to be sent home with your student. The online store closes on 8/26, so be sure to place your orders online by then. You will have to wait until spring to order again. We do not store Spirit Wear inventory and items can only be ordered during this time. Questions? Contact Spirit Wear Chair Judie Berro at texasjudie@yahoo.com.



SPIRIT WEAR BROOKSIDE TIGERS ELEMENTARY

\$20
Dri fit tee youth in navy & black lazer camo

\$12
Fine jersey youth tee in pink, grey & navy

\$28
Zip hoodie youth - in grey & navy

\$10
Trucker in navy w/ white

\$16
Girls Fanatic tee in blue w/ grey & white

\$10
Girls tank in grey

\$22
Girls skort in navy

\$18
Boy's youth mesh short in navy

TEXASJUDIE@YAHOO.COM
Samples available at registration. Size charts online.



SPIRIT WEAR BROOKSIDE TIGERS ELEMENTARY

\$20
Dri fit tee adult in navy & black lazer camo

\$12
Fine jersey adult tee in pink, grey & navy

\$28
Zip hoodie adult - in grey & navy

\$18
Ladies flowy racer back tank in navy

\$15
Ladies fine jersey tee in deep heather

\$25
Ladies off shoulder tee in blue marble

\$18
Ladies Fanatic tee in blue w/ grey & white

Please add \$2.00 for sizes XXL

Please email texasjudie@yahoo.com with any questions
Samples available at registration. Size charts online.