



BRENTWOOD SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MESSAGE



Dear Brentwood Community,

The last few years have been marked by rapid change. National and global events have impacted us all, making us thankful for the stability of our neighborhood and community institutions. As members of the Brentwood Borough Board of School Directors, we understand that while we may not be able to control events that happen elsewhere, by working together we can have a positive impact on our community, our families and the children we serve every day. As we look toward sustaining and growing our close-knit neighborhood, we have come to recognize that an investment in our school district through the construction of a new elementary school building is a wise course of action that will support our families for years to come.

World War I Era Construction

Since 2019, Brentwood School Board members, along with our administration, have been exploring the possibility of consolidating the District's two elementary schools into one new school building. Elroy Elementary was built just after World War I in 1921. Moore Elementary School was already standing in 1915 when the district was incorporated.

Although both buildings have been meticulously maintained over the years, time has taken its toll. Significant renovations are required on both the Elroy and Moore schools in order to keep the facilities safe and in good working order. A feasibility study conducted in 2017 indicated that the District would have to spend \$5 to \$7 million to renovate each elementary building for a minimum total cost of \$12 million. According to the feasibility study, the following renovations, at minimum, are required:

- **New roofs at both schools**
- **New windows at both schools**
- **New boilers and duct work at both schools**
- **Significant upgrades to HVAC and electrical**
- **Extensive amounts of new brick and masonry on exterior facades**
- **New internal doors and flooring at both schools**
- **New parking lots at both schools**
- **New playground surfaces and retaining walls at both schools**

A LETTER TO OUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS IN BRENTWOOD BOROUGH

The above renovations would not include additional space which is also desperately needed. Furthermore, as inflation has pushed the cost of construction materials higher, the Board has been informed by HHS DR Architects/Engineers that the estimated total is now closer to \$20 million for renovations and the necessary additions. After an analysis of the data and many thoughtful discussions at its public board meetings, the school board agreed that it was time to investigate other potential options.

Due Diligence – A Recap

After the feasibility study was presented, the Brentwood School Board began the process of exploring the possibility of consolidating its two aging elementary buildings and constructing a new building. While the COVID-19 pandemic caused some delays, a variety of public discussions were held to consider the potential impact that a new school building would have on the community, including its tax burden, traffic and infrastructure. In addition to the monthly public board meetings that are available via livestream, the following public meetings were held to learn more about how the community would feel about building a new elementary school.

- October 7, 2020 - Virtual Townhall Meeting
- June 6, 2022 - In-person meeting with residents of West Willock and Olanca

Another public meeting will be held this spring at a date yet to be determined. All residents will be invited to attend.

In addition to the public meetings, multiple news articles were published through the InBrentwood Baldwin Whitehall magazine:

- Summer 2019 • Winter 2019 • Winter 2020
- Spring 2021 • Summer 2021 • Fall 2021 • Fall 2022
- Winter 2022 • Spring 2023

Opportunity for Growth

In 2019, it was learned that St. Sylvester school and convent were closing and that the properties would be available for sale. After several rounds of discussions, the District came to a preliminary agreement with the Diocese of Pittsburgh to purchase the properties on the condition of securing the necessary approvals from Brentwood Borough. In late January 2023, the Borough granted the final approval which enabled the District to move towards the purchasing of the Diocese properties. We sincerely thank our local leaders for their consideration and assistance, and for providing a clear pathway to ensure the success of this important project.

Next Steps

The Brentwood Borough School District is at a natural inflexion point. Architects have been hired and the process of securing a company to handle the demolition of St. Sylvester's school, convent, and house will begin. The Board of School Directors and the administration continue to interview prospective agents who will be tasked with selling the elementary schools with two specific goals in mind. First, enhance the Brentwood community with the redevelopment of the properties. Second, add the properties to the Borough's tax assessment rolls which will generate new revenue. Before the project goes too far, additional public meetings will be held to discuss the construction project, its costs, and how the potential growth might affect the community. Everyone will be invited to attend, and the District will publicize the meetings as dates are solidified. We welcome and encourage your feedback and thank you for your interest in the District's future.

Stability and Investment

Over the last several years, the Brentwood Borough School District Board and administration have worked together to thoughtfully and deliberately consider how to best use its community investment to serve our students, our families and our borough. As your friends, relatives and neighbors, we sincerely care about the long-term stability and well-being of our community. While we respect and honor our history, as an elected board, we recognize that we must take the steps necessary to ensure that our students are prepared to succeed and achieve in our global 21st century world. An investment in our school district today will not only support Brentwood's stable tax base but will also encourage new growth so that our dynamic community continues to thrive for tomorrow's children.

Stay tuned to our district's website at www.bb-sd.com for updates on this project. If you have any questions about the process, please feel free to contact robert.kircher@bb-sd.com.

Sincerely,

Bob Kircher, President Brentwood Borough Board of School Directors
Along with the Brentwood Borough Board of School Directors

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



BRENTWOOD BOROUGH
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Academic Year 2023-2024

REGISTRATION OPENS
MARCH 15, 2023

MORE INFO :

412-881-4940 ext. 2215

<https://www.bb-sd.com//Registration.aspx>

SAVE THE DATES

MOORE KINDERGARTEN CAMP: 7/31/23-8/4/23

ELROY KINDERGARTEN CAMP: 8/7/23-8/11/23



Brentwood Borough School District has begun accepting registrations for kindergarten for the 23/24 school year. Families with a child who will turn 5 years of age by September 1, 2023 can begin the registration process on the online registration portal on the district website www.bb-sd.com under the heading REGISTRATION. Each family will be asked to pre-register by entering a parent's name and a valid email address. The portal will then send the parent an email containing the username and password to enter the registration system.

The family will be asked to enter demographic information (parent names, address, phone number, emergency contact names and phone numbers), complete and sign district forms and policy statements, and submit required documents. If families take the time to collect all required documents before entering the registration portal, the process can be completed in under 25 minutes.

The district requires the following four (4) documents for every student seeking enrollment:

1. **Child's birth certificate/court order listing the name of the custodial parent(s)**
2. **Current and complete lease agreement, deed to your home, or current mortgage statement listing your name and address within Brentwood Borough**
3. **Your child's up to date immunization record**
4. **Two (2) current documents demonstrating your residence in the**

borough. Acceptable documentation for proof of residency may include:

- a. Current utility bill (gas, electric, water, cable, telephone) in your name and address of your residence within the district
- b. IRS statement or other wage/tax statements (W2, 1040, 1099)
- c. Voter Registration card showing current address within the borough
- d. Recent employer pay stub showing current address
- e. Recent letter from a government agency with parent/guardian's name and current address within the Borough (Social Security, Public Assistance, IRS)
- f. Current PA driver's license/non driver's license with current address within the Borough
- g. Current vehicle registration or car insurance policy with your current address within the Borough
- h. Current credit card bill with your current address within the Borough

i. Recent bank statement with your current address within the Borough

5. If the situation warrants, families can submit any legal documents concerning your child (Custody Orders, PFAs, etc).

After families have entered all information and documents into the online portal, the family should hit SUBMIT APPLICATION TO THE DISTRICT button. All of the information that has been entered will be reviewed and the family will receive an email within a few days stating if the registration has been complete or if more information is necessary.

As registrations are completed, new kindergartners will be added to the district's student database and families will receive letters, emails, phone calls regarding upcoming events such as kindergarten screening event dates, kindergarten camp, and first day of school. Any family needing assistance is welcome to call the Student Service office at (412)881-4940 ext 2215. Translation services are available to aid in the enrollment process and can be accessed through the Student Service Office.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS TRANSITIONING BETWEEN PROGRAMS

In the area of special education, we talk about and plan for two big transitions in students' lives: for five-year-olds we plan for transition from Early Intervention/Preschool to Kindergarten (school-age programming), and for 14-18 year olds we plan for the transition from school to work or life after graduation.

Traditionally, Early Intervention has referred to services for youngsters from birth to age five (5). There has been an increased focus on providing services to students who show signs and symptoms of disabilities at very young ages. Think about Early Intervention as a program which targets symptoms of a disability while the child is very young with the goal that these interventions will address any deficits and will lessen or even eliminate the need for more involved interventions when the child is older.

Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3 is the agency that works with students with disabilities under the age of five (5). These Early Intervention programs evaluate young children and develop educational plans to address delays. These plans are similar to the IEPs used in school-age programs. Prior to registering their child for kindergarten, parents are invited to meet with Early Intervention staff and staff from the school district where the child will be attending kindergarten. These meetings typically are scheduled in Early Spring. At this meeting information regarding the student's specific challenges and needed supports are shared. This information is shared with the school district staff so the district can prepare for the student, review all information, conduct any evaluations that may be needed, and put in place the supports and services the student will be needing when he/she comes to kindergarten. This sharing of information and

collaboration allows for a seamless system of supports that start on Day One of kindergarten and allow the student to begin their school career in a positive way.

At this transition meeting, families are given information about how to register their child in the district. The district asks that families who have children receiving Early Intervention services register for kindergarten as soon as the registration period starts so the district can begin the planning and evaluation process. When parents elect to wait to register their child for kindergarten until right before the new school year begins, it significantly limits the planning and evaluation time which in turn will delay the start of special education services. Families are encouraged to register as soon as possible.



CLASS PET

Roll Call..... Seamus, Rayan, Brynlee, Anderson, Cole, Bella, Carson, Natalie, Abraham, Zoe, Michael, Kennedy, Kairo, Landon, Ryder, Sohan Max and Alice. Alice? Who's Alice? Alice is a gerbil in Mrs. Ailes' Kindergarten room. She joined the class in November, and spends weekends and holiday breaks at home with Mrs. Ailes. Classroom pets have several benefits such as helping to promote compassion, empathy, respect, and responsibility for other living things, just to name a few. Alice also has a fan club. Each morning, after leaving breakfast, many students from other grades stop by to visit with Alice but to also interact with the Kindergarten students. It has been a positive experience for students throughout the building.



MOORE BIKES



In January of 2023, Mr. Ohm, the health and physical education teacher at Moore kicked off a campaign to get the materials necessary to teach his kindergarten and first grade students how to ride bicycles. The Strider Education Foundation, through the All Kids Bike initiative, works through private donations to provide a fleet of strider bikes to schools so that the gym teachers can teach kindergarten students how to ride bikes.

Strider bikes are beginner bikes without pedals. Children use strider bikes to get the feel of balance on two wheels. Students learn to balance by gliding and riding around. Once they get the feel for balancing on two wheels, conversion kits add pedals to the bikes so that they learn how to keep moving and balancing at the same time.

Mr. Ohm is seeking \$6000 in donations so that the Strider Foundation can outfit our school with 24 kids strider bikes, conversion kits, helmets, a teacher strider bike and curricular materials. As of this writing he is at 20% of his goal. He hopes to secure the funding and get the bikes in as soon as possible so that he can get his students on two wheels!

If you are interested in donating or following Mr. Ohm's progress, you can use the QR code, or <https://stridereducationfoundation-bloom.kindful.com/moore-school-2023/moore-elementary-school>.



THANKFUL FOR MANY CULTURES

"Pass me the mashed potatoes and momo!"

This year, Moore Elementary School celebrated its second annual 'Not-So-Traditional' Thanksgiving Feast. Students who are part of the ESL (English as a Second Language) program and their families were invited to experience and share the holiday fun. A full, traditional Thanksgiving dinner- mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, turkey, stuffing, green beans was provided. Families were encouraged to bring favorite dishes from their home cultures including traditional foods from China, Iran, Mexico, and Nepal, just to name a few.

Local vendors including Scoglio's Restaurant, Spoonwood Brewing Company, Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, and Buffie Bakes donated all the dishes from a Thanksgiving dinner. Members of the High School ESL program and Student Government volunteered to help decorate, set-up, clean-up, and play with the younger kids. Good food brings people together, and this event, once again, has proven to be a community favorite.



HIGH SCHOOL GARDENING CLUB HOSTS ELEMENTARY STUDENTS



Students from the ESL (English as a Second Language) and Life Skills programs at Moore and Elroy Elementary Schools were treated to a pre-Halloween fun courtesy of the Brentwood Middle and High School Garden Club. Club sponsors, Katie Phillips and Dan Golvash, organized the event. The club provided small pumpkins for the children to paint and facilitated relay races. The elementary children loved spending time with the "big kids" and were all smiles when they left the Middle/ High School.



CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF HELPING OTHERS



Even though Diabetes Awareness Day is in November, it is important to keep in mind that those diagnosed with diabetes live with it every day. As a way of supporting research for diabetes, the students at Moore Elementary each wore a hat that is special to them. Moore Elementary School raised \$170 to donate to the American Diabetes Association (ADA).



BOOK BLAST

For the second year, Elroy Elementary School is participating in the Book Blast by the Books Are Fun company. This year's theme is Pirates. To get the program started, students receive a treasure map of directions to register. Then families are encouraged to provide ten or more email addresses or cell phone numbers of people who may contribute a monetary donation toward books for our students. The approximate cost to obtain all ten books per child is around \$110.00. If a child collects that amount from donors, the additional funds collected goes to help others, who may not have been able to participate. This ensures that each child receives at least one book. The top winner from each grade level is awarded a \$100.00 shopping spree from Books Are Fun. The top contributor from the school and any teacher with 60% or more class participation receive \$100.00 shopping spree. Last year, Elroy collected a total of \$12,883.87, and each student took home at least two books. This year the total so far is \$9,029.00. We still have time for the amount to increase. Thank you to all our participants and those who contributed toward helping provide books for all of our students.



Day 2 Winner, Payton Hartman



Day 4 Winner, Ryan Hansen

RESOURCES FOR RESCUES

humane soc pic

There are a significant number of pets just waiting to be adopted at humane societies in our area. The students at Elroy Elementary School partnered with the Washington County Humane Society to provide them with needed items. A list of suggested items for each grade level such as food, bedding, leashes, and toys was provided. Families were very generous in sending in items that were then presented to the humane society. Thank you to our families who donated to furry friends as well as the humane society staff who take care of homeless animals needing and wanting to be a part of someone's family. *"The things you do for yourself are gone when you are gone, but the things you do for others remain as your legacy."* – Kalu Ndukwe Kalu

EXCITING LEARNING EXPERIENCES AT BRENTWOOD MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

Students at Brentwood Middle/High School had several opportunities recently to engage in exciting learning experiences outside of the traditional classroom.

Veteran's Day Presenters

Sixth and seventh graders at Brentwood Middle School had the opportunity to learn from three remarkable presenters during a Veteran's Day program.

The first presenter was Tim Neff from Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum. Mr. Neff introduced the students to a foot locker full of authentic materials from World War II. After providing a brief overview of U.S. involvement in World War II (including the shock upon learning of the attack on Pearl Harbor), Mr. Neff revealed items from the foot locker including soldiers' uniforms and helmets, utensils used for eating in the battlefield, and a field communication device. The background and purpose of each item was discussed and the students had the opportunity to pass the items around and get an up close look at each one.



The second presenter was Evan Werner who served as a TOPGUN naval pilot and instructor. Mr. Werner shared his experiences as a fighter pilot with the students and showed them a video of a day in the life of a TOPGUN pilot. In addition, he brought his pilot's gear to show the students and allowed them to pass around his pilot's helmet decorated with his specific call sign.

The final Veteran's Day presenter was David Reese, father-in-law of Brentwood Middle School 6th grade social studies teacher, Mr. Casey Phillips. Mr. Reese served as a First Lieutenant in the Army in Germany during the Vietnam War. Mr. Reese discussed with the students his role in supervising a battalion charged with the oversight of nuclear warheads.

Each of these presenters was able to share unique experiences with the students and help them to understand the significance of Veteran's Day to our nation.



Career Day

Brentwood Middle School hosted the annual Career Day for all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. Sixteen guest speakers visited the middle school to share their careers with the students. Each student selected three of the presentations that they most wanted to see. During the presentations, the students learned about all elements of each career including the day to day responsibilities, type of education that is required, future job opportunities in that field, general salaries that can be expected, positives and negatives of the career, and specific skills that are important to be successful in that career. Several of the presenters were Brentwood graduates who took time out of their busy schedules to "come home" and meet with current students. These presenters included:

- Jeff Golvash (Class of 1991) – Attorney and President of Brentwood Business Owners' Association;
- Jason Mackey (Class of 2002) – Senior Sports Writer for Pittsburgh Post-Gazette;
- Mark Ziegler (Class of 2002) – PA State Trooper;
- Paul Denillo (Class of 2005) – Video Editor/Motion Graphic Designer;

Brentwood Middle School would like to send out a huge THANK YOU to not only our alumni presenters, but all of the guests that joined us for Career Day!

MAKER EDUCATION MEETUP AT BRENTWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL



Recently, a group of Maker Educators from districts across the region joined us at Brentwood Borough School District for an Agency By Design cohort gathering. Brentwood's 7th grade science teacher, Maggie Manolis, has been participating as a member of Agency by Design since fall 2021, and uses this group to grow as a professional through considering different instructional approaches.

During the experience, teachers from other schools had the chance to look for learning in the classrooms of Brentwood Middle School and High School during the morning, and their reflections spoke very highly of our Brentwood educators and students. Through their reflections we heard things like, "I saw WARMTH for students, true consideration and thoughtfulness of their humanity, their comfort, their state of being and knowing. I saw teachers who care, and students who seemed wrapped in that care and consideration." and "It was really wonderful to see and hear such a calm and relaxed classroom with teachers supporting students with their projects. I felt welcome in all rooms I visited."

Additionally, throughout the day, the educators brought samples of student work to share with one another and consider how these artifacts of student learning enhance education in their classrooms. This type of peer to peer sharing is an incredibly rich experience for educators who experience it, and it's something we may consider using with larger groups of Brentwood staff members in the future.

The experience concluded with a design challenge involving 16 students ranging from grade 7 -12 in our library classroom to consider what types of innovative learning we might want to see in these spaces in the future. These student and teacher ideas will be taken into consideration as we continue to develop unique learning opportunities for our students. We are excited to continue to work with this professional learning community at Brentwood in the future.



JUNIOR/SENIOR TRIP TO WASHINGTON D.C.

Sixty-four juniors and seniors participated in a fun and educational trip to Washington D.C. This biennial trip allows the students to get acquainted with many of the sights and experiences that are afforded by our nation's capital. Over three jam-packed days, the students visited DC's monuments and memorials, got an up close look at the White House and Capitol building, toured two Smithsonian museums and the Holocaust museum, explored Mount Vernon, attended a show at the Kennedy Center, and participated in a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. This trip provides the students with historical knowledge of our nation and an appreciation of the sacrifices that people have made to allow our democracy to develop and thrive. It also allows the students to spend quality time with their friends and classmates and helps them learn in a way that does not involve desks, textbooks, or laptops.



ATHLETICS

Swimming seniors

Front row (seated): Kenny Pfeil, Xander Witt, Logan Kirchner
Back row (standing): Riley Wise, Kyia Duffy, Candler Smith



Basketball Girls

Brianna Folino, Jenna Yee



Basketball Boys

Talan Kammermeier, Carter Betz, Aguek Deng

