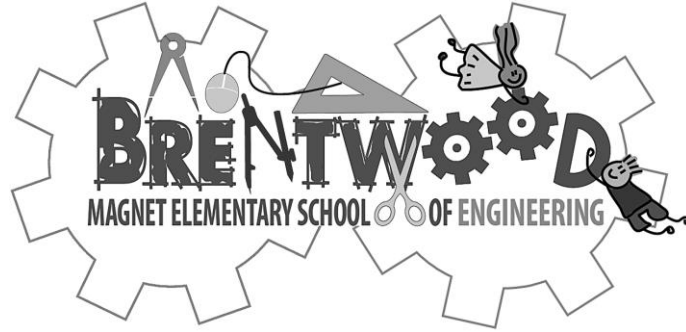


Brentwood Magnet Elementary School
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August 2019

Dear Brentwood Families:

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! School will begin soon, and as the proud principal of Brentwood Magnet Elementary School of Engineering, I want to welcome you and your child to a great school year of engaging learning!

I am honored to have the opportunity to begin my ninth year at Brentwood, and my fourth full year as your principal. Thanks to the efforts of our wonderful students, supportive parents and community, and dedicated staff, Brentwood Magnet Elementary School continues to achieve county, state, and national recognition. This past school year we were proud to earn many accolades, including being recognized as a Magnet School of Distinction, and being selected among five schools in the country as a model school for the development of a STEM-focused elementary school framework (inclusivestemschools.org). I hope you also share the pride that I have in our school, and I look forward to continuing our success and reaching for even greater heights this school year.

We look forward to seeing you at our introductory events. Reminders of the date/time information previously sent in July are below:

Prekindergarten:

- Your child's teacher will contact you individually to set up dates/times for home visits and staggered entry (your child's first day of school).

Kindergarten:

- Kindergarten Popsicles on the Playground: **Friday, August 23, 1:00-1:30 pm.**
- Staggered Entry: kindergarten students begin their school careers through "staggered entry." This means that your child will attend school only one day during the first week of school to support your child's transition into kindergarten. Your child's day is assigned by the first letter of their **last name**. All kindergarten students will then begin school full-time on **Tuesday, September 3.**

<u>Staggered Entry Date:</u>	<u>First Letter of Last Name</u>
Monday, August 26, 2019:	A, B, C, D, E, F
Tuesday, August 27, 2019:	G, H, I, J, K, L, M
Wednesday, August 28, 2019:	N, O, P, Q, R
Thursday, August 29, 2019:	S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z

- Kindergarten Meet the Teacher: **Friday, August 30, 3:30-4:30 pm.** You can bring your child's school supplies on this day.

Grades 1-5:

- Please join us for a **grades 1-5 Welcome Back event on Thursday, August 22, 3:00-5:00 pm.** This will be a free-flowing, informal event in which you will be able to meet your child's teacher so they can get to know you and your child. You will also be able to take care of other needs, such as getting your carpool tag or verifying your bus transportation stop, checking in medication, or registering to be an approved volunteer. We are looking forward to seeing you!
- The **first day of school for students in grades 1-5 is Monday, August 26.** You are welcome to walk your child to his/her class on the first day of school. We understand that it is a special day and walking together can alleviate some anxiety.



Family Involvement

We look forward to partnering with you to support your child, as the best education for our students can be achieved through a comprehensive partnership between our school, families, and community.

- Our PTA works hard to provide representation, support, and fun opportunities for our families. I encourage you to join our PTA as a board member or general member. PTA membership forms will be available at our Meet the Teacher event and in the front office. You can also contact our PTA directly at pta.brentwoodelementary@gmail.com.
- I also encourage you to be involved through communicating regularly with your child's teacher, supporting your child in their learning at home, and volunteering at our school. Please connect with your child's teacher or with our Magnet Program Coordinator Mrs. Myers (snmyers@wcpss.net) to determine the best ways that you can support your child and our school. All volunteers, including for classroom activities and field trip chaperones, must be approved in advance. Please register to be an approved volunteer in our front office.

Supporting Your Child

Please help us ensure the safety of our students through these guidelines:

- **Arrival:** School doors open at 8:00 am. Do not drop off your child before then or have them come to school prior to that time as they would be unsupervised. Students should arrive at school between 8:00-8:20 (8:00-8:15 if they are eating breakfast at school). Any students who are tardy (arriving to their class after 8:30) need to be checked in at the front office by their parent/guardian. If your child is absent from school, you will need to provide a note to the office or teacher within two days of your child's return to school or the absence(s) will be recorded as unexcused; please use this link for a list of excused absences: www.wcpss.net/attendance-absences.
- **Dismissal:** Dismissal begins at 3:00 pm. Unless students are identified by the county's transportation department as living in Brentwood's walk zone, they will need to be dismissed through carpool or ride their assigned bus/daycare van. Please communicate in advance with your child's teacher about your child's dismissal method. To maintain safety for all students at dismissal, students whose afternoon transportation has not been confirmed—or who do not have an assigned bus, carpool number, or walker approval—will need to wait on the school campus in a designated area for their parent/guardian to pick them up.
- **Carpool:** Families can get carpool tags during the Meet the Teacher event or from the front office. Please observe and adhere to the flow of traffic to ensure carpool runs smoothly and safely. Vehicles are required to *turn right into* the carpool lot and *turn right out of* the carpool lot (no left turns or going straight).
- **Bus Transportation:** For information regarding bus transportation, please go to www.wcpss.net/transportation or www.wcpss.net/busrider. As a reminder, WCPSS Transportation provides bus rider families with a free bus tracking app called "Here Comes the Bus" (<https://www.wcpss.net/Page/35380>); the app works on a computer/tablet/smartphone, and it allows you to see where the bus is and how close it is to your stop.
- **Visitors:** All parents/guests visiting our school campus are required to go directly to the front office before going anywhere else on campus. Our office staff will provide information and assistance. School doors remain locked during the school day; please ring the doorbell by the front door for assistance when visiting the school.
- **Early Check Out:** Students should not be checked out from school between 2:45 and 3:00, as this can be disruptive to finishing the school day effectively.
- **Medication:** School staff may administer medication to students only when the Parent and Physician Order for Medication form (Form 1702) is completed by the parent and physician and



given to the school. No medication will be given by a school official unless it is in a container dispensed by a pharmacy with the student's name, name of medication, date prescription was filled, and directions clearly marked. A new medication form must be completed if there are changes in medication directions. Parents or guardians are responsible for monitoring medication expiration dates and replacing medication when expired. At the beginning of each school year, an adult will need to bring the medicine along with the completed form 1702 to the school's front office. The school cannot give medicine to your child without this form. The 1702 form and additional information can be found here: www.wcpss.net/Page/167.

- **Breakfast:** Breakfast is free for all students at Brentwood each day from 8:00-8:20.
- **Lunch:** The cafeteria's standard lunch price for this school year is \$2.75 (<https://www.wcpss.net/Page/1848>). If your child may qualify for free or reduced price lunch, please complete the Free/Reduced Meals application; you can complete it online (<https://www.wcpss.net/Page/1849>) or in the school's front office. This application needs to be completed each school year (if you are renewing from last year it needs to be completed by October 1 this school year).

As a parent, you have the greatest impact on your child. It is our hope that you will support us in extending your child's education beyond the school day. That may include asking yourself these critical questions to support your child in their success:

- Does my child read at home each day for at least twenty minutes?
- Do I read with my child?
- Is my child sent to school well-rested, on time, and ready for the school day?
- Is my child in school daily (except when they are sick) and not taken out of school for any reason other than illness?
- Do I check my child's home/school folder and communicate with his/her teacher?
- How do I show my child that I value his/her success and education?
- Additionally, please regularly visit our school's website: <https://www.wcpss.net/brentwoodes>. Our website serves as a useful resource for upcoming events, the student/parent handbook, and other important updates during the school year. You can also follow our school on Twitter @BrentwoodMESE.

I am excited to greet all our students on their first day of a positive, enriching school year!

Thank you for your support,

Robert Epler
Principal

Si necesita servicios de traducción gratuitos para comprender los procesos escolares, llame al (919) 852-3303

إذا كنت بحاجة إلى خدمات الترجمة المجانية للتعرف على سير العمليات بالمدرسة، اتصل بالرقم (919) 852-3303

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