Morris Brandon PTA is now on Facebook and Twitter. Please "like" and "follow" us!

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Brandon Business Partners generously support us. Brandon families, please support them!

Big Frog Custom T-Shirts, Caja Popcorn, Café At Pharr, Coca-Cola, ColdLife Organics, Chick-fil-A (Howell Mill Road and Northside Parkway), Jersey Mike's, One Stop Business Services, Park Tavern, Publix, PurseN, S&S Rug Cleaners, Southern Sitters & Nannies, Surfaces Group, Swoozie's, The Gym at Peachtree Presbyterian Church, Carl E. Sanders YMCA at Buckhead, West Stride, Willy's Mexicana Grill, 1-800- GOT
TEXT ALERTS ARE COMING!
We will soon start collecting cell phone numbers from those of you that would like to start receiving text alerts. Please be on the lookout for more information about this in the near future. This will be a great way to get information sent out to our Morris Brandon community quickly!

Bee the Key: Off to a Great Start!
Bee the Key is off to a great start! Together, our Brandon community has raised nearly 50% of our goal heading into September. THANK YOU!!!! Remember, we have two important goals:

$170,000 and 100% participation from every family and every teacher - We can do this!!

Hopefully, nearly every family had a chance to hear from their Bee Fund Class Ambassador last week at the Parent Information Nights. We tried to reach as many of you as we could and will be sending follow-up information through your ambassador this week. We are going to publish participation levels by class and by grade in hopes of starting some friendly competition, and just so you know, the teachers have historically surpassed the parents with their participation numbers!

Donors at the $500 level and above who give by October 1 will be entered into a raffle for a getaway night at the Four Seasons and will be invited to the Foundation Donor Party in early 2014.

Your Bee Fund Co-Chairs truly believe that the more you know about how your money is used, the more you will participate and the more you will give. We encourage questions, and we especially want you to read last year’s Annual Report. The Bee Fund is the largest source of funds for the Morris Brandon Foundation. We promise that you will be impressed at how the Foundation enhances your child's Morris Brandon experience.

CLICK HERE to view the MBESF Annual Report for 2012-2013.

CLICK HERE to donate to the Bee Fund Today

CLICK HERE to view the Bee Fund donors as of August 29

Thanks again. BEE THE KEY!
Laura Balich, ljbaich@comcast.net, and Jennifer Irvin, jen.irvin@yahoo.com.

Morris Brandon School Counselors: Who We Are and What
We Do

Who We Are

- Tamila Jackson (PC) tjackson@atlanta.k12.ga.us
  Go Pack Go! That would be The Green Bay Packers :) I am a native of Milwaukee, WI. I attended Milwaukee Public Schools and graduated from Whitefish Bay High School. I earned my B.A. in History, with a teaching certification from the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Master's Degree in Educational Psychology/Guidance and School Counseling from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. I have worked with children for nearly 20 years and I believe that school counselors have one of the best jobs in education! The first ten years of my career were in Wisconsin, six of those teaching high school social studies and four in counseling. In 2004 life events brought me to Georgia where I have been working as a school counselor. Together we will teach, and inspire our Brandon Bee’s to become the best they can BEE!

- Tangela Culpepper (MC) tculpepper@atlanta.k12.ga.us
  Believe it or not, growing up, I attended Atlanta Public Schools before moving to Fulton County where I graduated from high school. Attending college at the State University of West Georgia yielded: a B.S. in Early Childhood Education, a Master's Degree in Counseling and Educational Psychology, and Certification in Educational Leadership. Currently, I am working on a Doctoral Degree in Educational Leadership at Argosy University. I have worked as an educator for 20 years! Wow, where did the time go? I guess time flies when you're having fun! The first seven years I taught in Fulton County as an elementary school teacher. In the year 2000 I was hired as a counselor in Atlanta Public Schools. I LOVE my job! Thanks for trusting me to provide the services to you and yours that will positively impact student achievement.

What We Do

- We provide guidance to students through classroom visits once a month as well as individual and group counseling to help students overcome personal and social problems that interfere with learning. Our mission is to focus on three areas of development: social/emotional skills, career awareness, and academic achievement. Our goal is to help students experience academic success. We support students in the teaching and learning process so that they can become productive, thinking, caring, and sharing members of society.

August/September Guidance Lessons

PC-Bullying- “Have You Filled a Bucket Today?”
  “Hands Are Not For Hitting”

MC- (September) Respect/Bullying
  “All About Me”
  Power Point Presentation

Upcoming Dates/Activities

Career Week November 18th -22nd
  · PC-Careers on Wheels (Any Career that has to do with transportation-Fire Truck, Mounted Patrol, HERO Unit, Pilots, etc. Please bring the vehicle)
  · Main Campus-Career Expo (Mock Job Fair)
  · College Day-Both Campuses
*Parents please contact Tiffany Tesfamichael tiffany@matadorlearning.com if you know someone or are able to participate.

Scholastic Book Fair This Week!
Monday, September 9 – Friday, September 13, Primary Center and Main Campus

Primary Center/Main Campus students and their families are invited to Morris Brandon’s Scholastic Book Fair this week, Monday through Friday, September 9-13. The Book Fair features great books for kids pre-school through fifth grade, as well as a selection of books for parents and teachers, too. Come by and check it out this week, and note that the Book Fair will be open Thursday night during the Family Backyard Dinner Night at the Main Campus.

Purchases at the Book Fair can be made with cash, check, credit card, or Bee Bucks. Come by and stock up on books for your kids and yourself, too!

Book Fair hours at Main Campus are 7:30am-3:00pm, Monday-Thursday; 5:30-8:00pm on Thursday (during the Family Backyard Dinner Night); and 7:30-10:00am on Friday. Please note that the Main Campus will NOT have a preview day on Monday, so Main Campus will be open and able to sell books on Monday.

Book Fair Hours at Primary Center are 7:30am-3:00pm Monday (this is a Preview Day only - no purchases this day); 7:30am-3:00pm, Tuesday-Thursday; and 7:30-10:00am on Friday.

To volunteer with the Book Fair this week - please check out the Sign Up Genius link for open times:  http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D4D494F2F4-morris

Questions: Main Campus Book Fair: Contact Catherine Spillman, catherines404@gmail.com or Suzann Moore suzannwardmoore@gmail.com.
Primary Center Book Fair: Contact Katie Newton, dearkatienewton@gmail.com or Ashley Hill, ashleyhhill@bellsouth.net.

It’s a WRAP! Innisbrook Gift Wrap Sale

The deadline for turning in your Innisbrook orders was last Friday, September 6. Please return your order voucher and one check payable to Morris Brandon PTA to the BEE BOX IMMEDIATELY if you have not already done so! EZ Orders will be ready for pickup on October 28 and 29. Internet orders ship directly to the customer. Thanks for your amazing support of the GIFT WRAP sale. Let’s wrap it up!

Brandon Family Dinner Night

Thursday, September 12 from 5:30-7:30pm, Main Campus

Bring your family, picnic blankets, footballs and frisbees and join us at the Main Campus Backyard for Family Dinner Night on Thursday, September 12. Shop the Book Fair to raise money for our school and then head outside for some dinner and family fun. Sweet Auburn BBQ and Pero’s Pizza will be selling dinner from 5:30 to 7:30pm. No reservations or prepayment is required. See you in the Backyard! Contact Kim Nagy, kimberlynagy@gmail.com or Sarah Watt, sgwatt@mac.com with any questions.

Two young Brandon alums, Mason and Scott Arbery will also be selling their recently published children’s book, How the Green Monster Got His Job. The boys are donating their proceeds to raise enough money to send a family dealing with childhood cancer to a Blue Skies Ministries retreat where they have served as volunteers for the past several years. To learn more about the book - please visit www.masonandscott.com.
Southern Sitters & Nannies: Giveaway!
Giveaway at Family Dinner Night - Thursday, September 12
Southern Sitters & Nannies is giving away an Annual Babysitting Membership at Morris Brandon’s Family Dinner Night on September 12th. Come by the table to meet Helen Gregory (owner), learn more about SS&N and enter the raffle. A babysitting membership includes the agency’s costs and time for continuously recruiting, interviewing and screening candidates. It also includes the following benefits: Registration for Nanny & Newborn Care Specialist Services, Reduced Babysitting Placements & Packages, Requests for Specific Sitters, Access to the Dinner & A Sitter Service, Reduced Rates for Event, Wedding & Birthday Childcare Services. The membership may also be used toward a nanny replacement. Southern Sitters & Nannies is Atlanta’s boutique nanny, newborn care specialist and babysitter placement agency. Their goal is to make the process of finding top notch care an enjoyable, stress-free experience by recruiting, pre-screening and scheduling childcare services.

Raffle tickets will be sold at the table or at www.morrisbrandon.com: 1/$5.00 or 3/$12.00 – drawing to be held Thursday, September 19th with winner notified by phone. Please see www.thesouthernsitters.com for more information.

2013-2014 Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl Team
Meeting: Monday, September 16 at 3:00pm, Main Campus Media Center

If you have a 4th or 5th grader who LOVES reading, competing and making new friends, they might be perfect for our Reading Bowl team! Tryouts are coming up for the 2013-2014 Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl team at Brandon. This will be our 5th year competing in this state-wide competition. To find out more, we will have an informational meeting on Monday, September 16th at 3pm in the Main Campus Media Center. Since we are only allowed 10 students on the team, we will hold tryouts starting on Thursday, September 19th. To find out more information, please come to the meeting or email Lindsay Waddell, Media Specialist (Main Campus) at lwaddell@atlanta.k12.ga.us.

Here are the list of books the students will read: https://www.smore.com/r7rt-2013-2014-reading-bowl-book-list

Beep! Beep! 5th Grade Car Wash!!!
Saturday, September 21 from 9am-2pm, Main Campus
This year’s 5th grade CAR WASH is Saturday, Sept 21 from 9am-2pm at the Main Campus! Conferences are set for the same day so schedule your child’s conference and get a clean and shiny car at the same time! Please support our 5th graders in this important rite of passage! We’ll even have concessions for sale while you wait! Minimum $10 Donation.

Thank you for supporting the 5th Grade. All funds raised throughout the year help offset the expenses associated with the unique activities that culminate the “Brandon Experience” for our 5th graders… such as Jekyll Island, Immigration Day, Great
Bethany Riggs Photo Sittings
Sunday, September 22; Sunday, October 13; and Saturday, October 19, Main Campus
Back by popular demand, a private photo sitting with Bethany Riggs – perfect for your holiday cards! Please support the 5th grade with fantastic photos of your kids, pets or entire family. Bethany Riggs has again agreed to visit Brandon’s Backyard at the Main Campus. The sitting fee is $50, which covers the sitting plus 12 4x6 prints of your choice. The entire sitting fee goes to the 5th grade fund. Additional prints and digital images can be ordered through Bethany Riggs Photography for an additional cost after you view the proofs online. Bethany is accepting appointments for the following days:
- Sunday, September 22
- Sunday, October 13
- Saturday, October 19

Go to [http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B4B8EA72FA46-morris](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B4B8EA72FA46-morris) to sign up. Also - you must pay the $50 sitting fee one week before your sitting to confirm your spot. You can make a check out to Morris Brandon PTA (please put Bethany Riggs on memo line) and put it in the Bee Box slot marked Bethany Riggs or you can pay online by going to [www.morrisbrandon.com](http://www.morrisbrandon.com) and clicking on the Bethany Riggs link. Appointments are sure to fill up fast! If you have any questions, please contact Kathleen Eidbo cell 404-668-4728 or [keidbo@yahoo.com](mailto:keidbo@yahoo.com).

North Atlanta High School (NAHS) Cluster Open House
Tuesday, October 8 from 6:00-9:00pm, NAHS (4111 Northside Parkway, Atlanta 30327)
All parents of students at: Bolton Academy, E. Rivers Elementary, Garden Hills Elementary, Jackson Elementary, Morris Brandon Elementary, Sarah Smith Elementary, Westside Charter, and Sutton Middle school are cordially invited to join us for a self-guided facility tour at NORTH ATLANTA HIGH SCHOOL, 4111 Northside Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30327, on Tuesday, October 8 from 6:00-9:00pm. No RSVP necessary. Questions, contact [atlsheldons@bellsouth.net](mailto:atlsheldons@bellsouth.net). No children please, this is an adult activity.

Do You Think Your Child Is Gifted?
You may have your child evaluated for the Gifted and Talented program. Stop by the front office at either campus at your convenience and request a Parent Permission slip. All permission slips must be received NO LATER THAN December 14, 2013. We regret that we cannot accept late permission slips! The Gifted Office of Atlanta Public Schools requires that Testing Rosters be submitted prior to the holiday break, and the tests are orders based on these rosters. Testing will begin February. If you have specific questions about your child, please contact the Gifted teacher in charge of your grade level. Also, please feel free to attend one of four Gifted Testing Informational Sessions for Parents ([see attached flyer](#)).

Kindergarten: Nicole Dicarlo, [nmdicarlo@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:nmdicarlo@atlanta.k12.ga.us)
International Baccalaureate? What does it all mean?

Here at Morris Brandon, we are proud to be a certified International Baccalaureate (IB) World School in the Primary Years Programme (PYP). Many have heard about IB schools and have gathered that it is a good thing, but what does it all mean? Let's start with the basics:

- The IB organization is a non-profit, Swiss organization founded in 1968, established originally for internationally mobile students to prepare themselves for university.
- There are 3,665 authorized IB world schools in 146 countries across the globe (Including Morris Brandon, Sutton Middle School, and North Atlanta High School!!!!).
- The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. Simply stated, we strive to create a better world through education.
- The IB Curriculum places emphasis on experiential learning and has a global context, helping our kids become critical thinkers who are better prepared for an increasingly interconnected world.
- To this end, IB encourages students across the world to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners who understand that other people, even if different, can also be right.
- I’m sure you have heard your little one throw around words like “Principled”, “Knowledgeable”, and “Risk-taker.” Where did they come from? These are the PYP Learner Profile words, used here at Brandon, to encourage our students to become an “international” person. Here are the profile words:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Caring</th>
<th>Communicators</th>
<th>Inquirers</th>
<th>Knowledgeable</th>
<th>Open-minded</th>
<th>Principled</th>
<th>Reflective</th>
<th>Risk-takers</th>
<th>Thinkers</th>
<th>Well-balanced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- You have probably also heard words like “Enthusiasm”, “Cooperation”, and “Appreciation.” These too are part of the IB way and make up the Student Profile. The Student Profile encourages the development of positive attitudes towards people, the environment and to learning. Here are the attitude words:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appreciation</th>
<th>Commitment</th>
<th>Confidence</th>
<th>Cooperation</th>
<th>Creativity</th>
<th>Curiosity</th>
<th>Empathy</th>
<th>Enthusiasm</th>
<th>Independence</th>
<th>Integrity</th>
<th>Respect</th>
<th>Tolerance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Is IB becoming a little more familiar to you? Great, but what do we do with this information? How do you support your child and your child’s school? Here are some ways that you can use this information:

- Share books with your child that demonstrate/encourage international mindedness.
- Support your student in the acquisition of another language.
- Be involved in the research projects here at school or begin a family project of your own.
- Attend curriculum information meetings here at school and ask questions about the IB program during parent/teacher conferences.
For additional information and resources, you may follow this link

Need to get something in the eBee?
Please email Bee articles to Lani Preis at ebee@morrisbrandon.com. The eBee is published each Sunday. The deadline for submitting material is Monday by 5:00pm one week prior to publication.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Upcoming Key Dates:</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scholastic Book Fair</td>
<td>BOTH</td>
<td>September 9-13</td>
<td>See article for specific times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Backyard Dinner</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>September 12</td>
<td>5:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willy's Spirit Event</td>
<td>Willy's</td>
<td>September 17</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Grade Car Wash</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>September 21</td>
<td>9:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chick-fil-a Spirit Event</td>
<td>Chick-fil-a</td>
<td>September 26</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Council Meeting</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>October 2</td>
<td>7:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellness Week</td>
<td>BOTH</td>
<td>October 7-10</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAHS Cluster-Wide Open House</td>
<td>NAHS</td>
<td>October 8</td>
<td>6:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk to School Day</td>
<td>BOTH</td>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO School – Teacher Work Day</td>
<td>BOTH</td>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>All Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO School – Columbus Day/Fall Break</td>
<td>BOTH</td>
<td>October 14</td>
<td>All Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandon Jamboree</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>October 20</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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