Coming Up!

Friday, April 2 - Monday, May 3
Deadline passed. Submit enrollment ASAP.
SY21-22 School Enrollment
https://dgcov.seamlesdocs.com/f/DCPSEnrollmentForm_English22

Wednesday, May 19
Diversity Working Group - May Meeting
8 - 9 p.m.
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83529208450?pwd=K25LWUY2VzRpK1FqZ2J
TTzNxFMzRUT09

Wednesday, May 26
Community Meeting
6 - 7:30 p.m.
Login information provided in Tuesday, May 25 Tues News.

Monday, May 31
Memorial Day
Brent Closed

Friday, June 11, and Saturday, June 12
Auction & Virtual Gala
Register at:
https://e.givesmart.com/events/ln4

Thursday, June 24
Last day of school

CALLING ALL BRENT BEARS!

Brent Elementary
Tues News
Parent Leadership Recruitment Edition for
School Year 21-22

Recruitment happening now for:

PTA Board

Local School Advisory Team

Diversity Working Group

Learn about opportunities to lend your voice to Brent's community.
www.brentelementary.org
Many Voices. One Community.
Join the PTA!

The PTA Nominating Committee is seeking great candidates eager to support our kids’ experience here at Brent. The Brent PTA brings parents, teachers, and administrators together to foster cooperation and engagement and fundraises to help ensure that Brent meets its ambitious goals in support of our children's social, emotional, and academic development. Each position on Brent’s executive board is filled by a pair of parents who agree to serve together—ensuring partnership and support for each role. For the 2021-2022 school year, we seek candidates for the following positions:

Co-Presidents: The co-presidents work closely with, the school and other parent leadership organizations and PTA committees to support the school through fundraising and community building activities.

Co-Vice Presidents: The co-vice presidents help coordinate the work of the officers and committee of the PTA in partnership with the PTA co-presidents. Importantly, co-vice presidents succeed automatically to the position of co-presidents at the end of their term.

Co-Treasurer: The co-treasurers provide oversight of all the funds of the PTA, supported by the PTA Board’s bookkeeper. Working closely with the PTA’s bookkeeper, the co-treasurers keep account of receipts and expenditures, make disbursements in accordance with the budget adopted by Brent’s PTA, present financial statements at each meeting of the Board, and oversee planning for the PTA budget.

Co-Secretary: The co-secretaries play key roles in informing and ensuring transparency for the Brent community, recording and making available to the public minutes of general membership meetings and meetings of the PTA Board.

Co-Community Liaisons: The co-community liaisons engage community members to understand and represent the concerns and interests of parents at the PTA Board and inform families about PTA activities and issues.

Huge thanks to Adi Segal, Josie Malone, and Abby Maslin for agreeing to join the nominating committee! The nominating committee will help recruit candidates and serve as a resource for community members who’d like to learn more about positions on the Board. If you are interested in any of the above positions or want to learn more, please contact any member of the Brent PTA Nominating Committee by Monday, May 24th:

Nominating Committee for the Election of PTA officers:

Adi Segal: adisegaladi@gmail.com (at-large member)

Josie Malone: josiejmalone@gmail.com (at-large member)

Ann Heilman-Dahl: barnettdahl@gmail.com (at-large member)

Tara Goldenberg: taragoldenberg@gmail.com (PTA co-president)

Kiana Moore: kiana.j.moore@gmail.com (PTA co-president)

Abby Maslin: Abigail.maslin@k12.dc.gov (faculty representative)

Norah Lycknell: norah.lycknell@dc.gov (Brent Elementary School Principal)

Local School Advisory Team Nominations

All Brent parents are invited and encouraged to nominate yourself or someone else for the Brent Local School Advisory Team (LSAT)! Brent’s LSAT is a group of parents, teachers, administrators and a community member that meets once a month to advise the principal on critical school issues and priorities - including curricular matters, school budget, enrollment, staffing, school culture and parent and student engagement. Joining the LSAT is an exceptional opportunity to get a better understanding of how school decisions are made and how DCPS works AND to have a positive, long-lasting impact on the school.

There are three parent openings for the next school year -- three for two-year terms and one for a one-year term. If you have any questions about joining the LSAT, feel free to contact Sarah Werstuik (current LSAT Chair) at sarah.werstuik@k12.dc.gov or any current/ former member of the LSAT.

If you are interested in nominating yourself, please send a statement of interest that includes your children and their grades and why you are interested in by Wednesday, May 26. The date of the election will be announced soon.
Join the Brent Diversity Working Group

The Brent Diversity Working Group advances the school’s commitment to recognizing, respecting, valuing, and promoting diversity by serving as a resource and liaison for students, families, staff, and faculty on issues of equity through education, outreach, and advocacy.

We welcome all community members to join us. For the 2021-2022 school year, we are looking to fill the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair. Ideally, the Chair position will be filled by a community member who participated as a DWG member in the past year.

During the past year, we have organized discussions on race, school budgets, school choice, and how to talk to young children about race, ethnicity, and gender. In the fall DWG hosted zoom meetings to support community building among parents/caregivers during virtual learning and held in-person masked book exchange events in connection with Black History Month. In past years, DWG has spearheaded community events like the MLK Poster Party, the CommUNITY Dance, and Multicultural Night.

May Diversity Working Group Meeting

Wednesday, May 19 at 8pm

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83529208450?pwd=K25LWUY2VzRpK1FqZ2JtTzNxDENmUT09

During May’s DWG meeting, we are setting space aside for an open discussion and reflection on the school year so far. We are also actively recruiting community members who are interested in serving as Chair or Vice-Chair next year. DWG elections will occur in June 2021.
Second Round of Invitations have been sent to students for the Brent Summer Adventure Camp!

This three-week program will serve Brent Bears entering 1st through 4th grade. Each week campers will engage in thematic units of study that will incorporate language and literacy skills, social-emotional learning, and physical activity. Campers will have fun playing, exploring, and creating with their grade-level peers and Brent faculty!

Summer Adventure Camp is a half-day program, from 8:30 to 12:30, Monday through Friday. We’re excited to partner with Innovation Learning who will provide aftercare programming. This aftercare programming from 1 - 4 p.m. is open to all members of the community, regardless of camp enrollment. Please information about Innovation Learning after camp programming below or at https://innovationlearning.com/locations/brent-elementary-school/

Register for after camp programming! All enrolled Brent students for SY21-22 are eligible to participate!
Register at www.innovationlearning.com

**Volunteer to Welcome New Families to Brent**

Last call! Sign up to be a Brent Buddy! Brent Buddies is an easy way you can help welcome our new arrivals to the Brent community. As a Brent Buddy you will be asked to call your incoming family via phone to make the initial introductions and welcome the incoming family to the community. After the initial connections we ask that you check in with your Brent Buddy every month or two. You will have an opportunity to share with them about your experience at Brent, but mostly your job will be to make our new friends feel welcome. To sign up, please add your information to the Brent Buddies Spreadsheet, found at www.tinyurl.com/BrentBuddies or emailing brentelementary@k12.dc.gov.
Dear Brent Families,

We often refer to the “Brent Community,” something that has a slightly different meaning for each individual that constitutes it. And yet what ties our individual definitions and collective identity together is the idea that to be a community, we must all contribute. We might contribute by saying hello to other Brent families at arrival and dismissal, even those that we don’t know. We might contribute by serving as a Brent Buddy or as a room parent. We might contribute by advocating with the Council or Mayor to secure our school’s future. And we might contribute by offering our service to one of the community leadership groups: the Diversity Working Group (DWG), the Local School Advisory Team (LSAT), or the Parent Teacher Association (PTA).

The time has come to consider the role you might play as a community leader. Listed earlier in Tues News are opportunities to put yourself forward and represent a broad set of interests around a singular goal: the growth of every student at Brent. I hope that you will consider how your skills and interests might match with the varied leadership opportunities and how your contributions, as part of community leadership groups or otherwise, are essential to our success.

Sincerely,

Norah Lycknell

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Spring Gala Update

Hi Brent Families. We are excited to announce that we will be handling class baskets a bit differently for this years Spring Auction. We’re simplifying the basket process; check out the three B’s: Build, Buy or Bid!

BUILD a Basket: Do you know a business that can donate items or experiences? Do you have a great basket idea for items you want to donate? Please reach out to Carrie Miller (carolynmiller01@icloud.com) and she can set you up with templates, sponsor letters, whatever you need! Carrie will also help get your items registered and ready for bidding.

BUY a Basket: Prefer to donate directly? Pick a ‘basket’ to fund and donate directly to that cause. Links will be send out in room parent emails and opportunities to bid will be part of our LIVE auction programming.

Books in every classroom and in our library with more diverse authors and culturally relevant content.

Cleaning supplies. The effort to clean surfaces now a days is not a small one, especially in ECE where much can end up in sticky hands and little mouths!

More recess coaches and resources. Kids are loving Coach J and some of the a mazing contractors that are on the blacktop playing with our kiddos and keeping them safe. Help us grow to grow this program so we can finally give Principal Ewbank a break from

hide and seek ;)

More staff and teacher development opportunities. Did you know that the DCPS budget does not fund teacher aid development and education? Help us to support all our teachers so they can continue to bring all best practices to the classroom.

BID on a Basket: Register for the virtual auction and get ready to bid on something that speaks to you! brentgala2021.givesmart.com

We hope these options will make it easy for you to participate in whatever way works best for you! Thank you so much for your support thus far!

-The Gala Committee
Beginning today, fully vaccinated people* only need to wear masks or social distance in places where it is required.

Fully vaccinated people should continue to stay home if they are sick.

*A person is considered fully vaccinated 14 days after completion of a COVID-19 vaccination series.

For now, all people are required to wear a mask in the following places:

- On the Metro, on buses, and in taxis and ride shares as required on public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States (on an airplane, train, bus, taxi, ride-share vehicle, or at a transportation hub such as an airport or train station)
- Healthcare settings
- When required to per workplace or establishment policies
- Homeless shelters
- Correctional facilities

**Important safety reminder: DCPS Mask Requirement**

DCPS’s mask requirement is still in effect.

All DCPS students, staff, and visitors are required to wear a face mask while on school property and facilities, except as specified in Sections II and III of the DC mask policy. For the purposes of this guidance, “face masks” include cloth face coverings, such as homemade cloth masks, store-bought fabric masks, medical or surgical masks, bandanas, or other cloth wrapped around the head that covers the mouth and nose and does not include an exhalation valve or vent. Prior to entering a DCPS facility, DCPS will provide single-use masks to all students, staff, and visitors who do not have one.

For more information on DCPS’s mask requirement, please see link below:

TO HELP LIMIT THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AND TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ALL CHILDREN AND STAFF OF SCHOOLS AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT FACILITIES, TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF THE DISTRICT, MARYLAND OR VIRGINIA REMAINS DISCOURAGED AT THIS TIME. AS TRAVEL INCREASES, SO DOES YOUR CHANCES OF BECOMING INFECTED AND SPREADING COVID-19. STAYING HOME IS THE BEST WAY TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS FROM GETTING SICK.

PLEASE REMEMBER CHILDREN, TEACHERS AND STAFF RETURNING FROM TRAVEL OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT, MARYLAND OR VIRGINIA, OR ANY PLACE OTHER THAN A LOW-RISK STATE, TERRITORY OR COUNTRY, MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING BEFORE RETURNING TO SCHOOL OR CHILD CARE:

**SELF-MONITOR AND LIMIT DAILY ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING STAYING HOME FROM SCHOOL OR CHILD CARE, FOR 10 DAYS UPON RETURN TO THE DISTRICT**

**OR**

LIMIT ACTIVITIES AND SELF-MONITOR UNTIL THEY ARE TESTED FOR CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) (AT LEAST THREE TO FIVE DAYS AFTER THEIR RETURN) AND RECEIVE A NEGATIVE RESULT.

NEW: Travel-related testing and quarantine requirements may be waived if an individual:

- Has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days AND does not have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19

**OR**

- Is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 AND does not have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

An individual is considered fully vaccinated 14 days after completion of a COVID-19 vaccination series (after the second dose of a 2-dose series, or after one dose of a single-dose vaccine).

Note: The COVID-19 vaccine is currently not available to children under the age of 16. Non-vaccinated children must continue to follow the travel restrictions before returning to school or child care, even if their parent/guardian(s) are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

**REMEMBER**

INDIVIDUALS MUST QUARANTINE WHILE WAITING COVID-19 TEST RESULTS.

ALL INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE TRAVELED MUST CLOSELY MONITOR FOR SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 FOR 14 DAYS AFTER THEIR RETURN, INCLUDING THOSE WHO ARE FULLY VACCINATED. IF SYMPTOMS DEVELOP, THEY MUST IMMEDIATELY ISOLATE AND SEEK FURTHER GUIDANCE FROM A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER.