Coming Up

**Tuesday, September 27**
Springboard Parent Advisory Meeting
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 28**
PTA Board Meeting
6:30 - 8 p.m.

**Thursday, September 29**
PTA Parent Coffee
Sponsored by Bullfrog Bagels
8 - 9 a.m.
Brent front entrance

**Friday, September 30**
Professional Development Day
No School for Students
Springboard Services Provided

**Wednesday, October 5**
Brent Diversity Working Group Meeting
6:30 p.m.

**Friday, October 7**
Brent Class Banner Parade
2:45 p.m.

**Monday, October 10**
Columbus Day
Brent Closed

**Wednesday, October 12**
PTA General Meeting
6:30 - 8 p.m.

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Alert – Brent’s Early Morning Bells
This school year, there has been a shift in the earning morning bells. Now, the first warning bell rings at 8:40 a.m. and school start bell rings at 8:45 a.m. This shift in time allows for staff to participate in additional collaborative meetings.

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Annual Fund Drive Starts Oct 3rd
Brent PTA’s Annual Fund Drive is kicking off next Monday, October 3rd. Our goal is 100% Family Participation to raise $100,000. No gift is too big or too small.

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Photo: Brent’s Diversity Committee’s Pajama Tour of the new National Museum for African American History and Culture

The PTA funds important programs at Brent, including:
· Full-time Teacher Partners
· Support for Specials Programs
· Teacher Development
· Springboard Before-care

So get your credit cards and checkbooks ready! Ask your employer if they will match your contribution.

If you want to help out with the drive, send Annual Fund Co-Chairs Cara Spaccarelli, Christy Leavitt, and Kevin Reger an email at BrentAnnualFund@gmail.com or find us on the playground.

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301 N Carolina Ave, SE - W DC 20003 - 202-698-3363 - brentelementary.org
LSAT News
The Local School Advisory Team (LSAT) held its first meeting of the school year on September 21st and elected Brian Kirrane and Michael Crawford as its Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. Chrisanne Gayl will serve as Secretary. The LSAT is a group of elected parents, teachers, non-instructional school staff, and a community member that advise the principal on matters to promote high expectations and achievement for all students. In fulfilling this task, the LSAT considers issues such as the allocation of school resources, student progress, staffing, school culture, and family engagement. LSAT meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Brent Library and are open to the public. For more information about the LSAT as well as a copy of the September meeting minutes please see: http://www.brentelementary.org/lsat.html.

Update from Brent’s Student Store
As the weather cools, don’t forget to order your long sleeve shirts and polos, athletic pants and polar fleeces from the student store. They are in stock and ready to be worn! We are out of stock again for Brent Bears and athletic shorts in size small, but they will be back in stock soon!

Also, there seems to be a growing interest by quite a few adults in owning a pair of Brent’s new athletic pants. I can get these in adult sizes but would prefer to have close to exact numbers for ordering. Please let me know if you are interested by emailing me at candacesigmonfleming@gmail.com.

Our Brent Artists are Flying High
This past Saturday a group of Brent students had a unique opportunity to release butterflies. As part of the Barracks Row festival, Skill Zone a play-learn space for preschoolers opening soon on 8th street, hosted two butterfly launches. Not only did Brent students participate by launching the butterflies but their butterfly themed artwork was featured around the festival. See photo.

New Field Trip Tee Shirts Coming Soon!
All students will be issued tee-shirts to wear on field trips in the next couple of weeks. If your child has outgrown last year’s shirt, please donate the shirt back to Brent. Donated shirts can be dropped off in the front office.

Farmers Visit 2nd Graders
After Mr. Berg’s 2nd grade class planted grass as part of a science experiment last week, they had the opportunity to meet farmers who grow crops for a living, including hay. The farmers shared with the class what happens throughout the year on a Minnesota beef cattle and crop farm. What do farmers do during the long, snowy winters? The 2nd graders were surprised to learn that the farmers did their homework in the winter....they work on the records necessary to maintain the farm’s organic certification. The class also matched consumer products with the animals from which they come. While the class quickly determined that cheese is a product of dairy cattle, they were intrigued that sheep provide the wool used in making Major League baseballs. Now like farmers everywhere, the 2nd graders are keeping a close eye on their grass waiting for it to grow. See photos.
Jeanette Leal
Special Education Teacher
Brent Staff Spotlight

What is your teaching and educational background?

This is my sixth year of teaching and I am so very excited to be teaching the wonderful students of Brent! I joined DCPS in 2013 and taught bilingually (in English and Spanish) at Bruce-Monroe Elementary School @ Park View for the past three years. Prior to that, I was at Mundo Verde Public Charter School for two years, teaching in full Spanish immersion classrooms. I’ve worked with students in Pre-school, Kindergarten, first grade, second grade, and third grade and I am excited to be expanding my repertoire to include fourth and fifth grade this year.

I am originally from Miami, FL and I attended the University of Florida (Go Gators!) for my undergraduate degree in Political Science and minors in European Union Studies and French. After college, I moved to DC for graduate school and received two Masters of Education degrees in Elementary Education and Special Education from Lesley University. While I have been both a whole classroom teacher and a Special Education teacher, I have found that my love truly is Special Education. I am so grateful to the Brent parents for helping me start out the school year ready to share my love for learning with all of my students!

What would be some of the words your students have used to describe you as a teacher?

Students have described me as fun, enthusiastic, having high expectations, and more than likely unique—I enjoy bringing my personality into the classroom and my teaching and I love when my students do the same! Our uniqueness is what makes us special and makes learning fun!

Tell us about a typical day for you as a special education teacher.

A typical day has me working with students both inside and outside of the classroom. The majority of my days have me with the fourth graders, though I make a regular daily appearance in fifth grade every afternoon. Each day is action-packed and fast-paced, but full of lots and lots of learning!

What are your hopes and dreams for your students this year?

My hope is that every one of my students will reach their maximum potential socially and academically this year, so that at the end of each day, they will feel successful in the classroom and make strides for a brighter future.