

School Board

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BROOKER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Dear Students and Parents:

Welcome to Brooker Elementary School. We are excited to welcome our Brooker Bolts to a brand new school year. The faculty and staff of Brooker Elementary anxiously await the arrival of our returning students as well as those students new to our family.

Our faculty and staff are committed to providing a quality education so that each student succeeds both academically and behaviorally. Our Mission Statement is *"Together Everyone Achieves More."* As parents, you play a vital role in your child's education. **TEAM WORK** between school and home improves the quality of education and increases your child's opportunity to learn. You can be an essential part of your child's educational team by frequently communicating with your child's teacher, reading with your child, reviewing your child's homework, and making sure that your child comes to school each day rested and on time. Working together, we can make it happen for all children. We hope that you will become a member of the PTA.

Please know that we are closely monitoring CDC, state, and district guidelines. The policies and procedures in this welcome letter could change due to those guidelines. We will communicate changes as they are made. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility as we do everything we can to be responsive to the needs of the community around us.

Our Brooker staff is working together to plan the beginning of the year so that we can create protocols to keep students and adults healthy. Some of these protocols will include but are not limited to: facemasks are required for all students and staff, frequent wiping of high-touch surfaces, additional hand sanitizer stations, playground schedule with one class at a time, one-way movement in most hallways. We have added an additional room for the clinic. This will assist us with keeping students social distanced while waiting for a parent or guardian to pick them up.

The first day of school is Monday, August 10, which is an Early Dismissal Day. Students will be dismissed early every Monday during the first, third, and fourth grading periods at 12:55. Dismissal is at 1:55 PM Tuesday – Friday. The starting time for Brooker Elementary is 7:40 AM. Students will be admitted to the school campus at 7:10 AM when staff is available to provide supervision.

Students are expected to be in their classrooms and ready to work at 7:40 AM. It is important for all students to realize that time is a valuable commodity especially when it comes to learning. Making every minute count is not only important while your child is in school but while your child is at home.

Students who are transported by car should remain in their vehicle under the supervision of the parent/guardian until 7:10 AM. Walkers and bike riders may not arrive on campus until 7:10 AM. Thank you for working together to provide a safe school environment for our Brooker Bolts.

IMPORTANT: If your child will be a bus rider, please have him/her ride the bus on the first day of school. Our staff will place a color-coded band on your child's backpack on the first morning. This color-coded

**Brooker Elementary School • 812 DeWolf Rd. • Brandon, FL 33511 • Website: www.sdhc.k12.fl.us
Main Office: 813-744-8184 • Fax: 813-740-3621**

Raymond O. Shelton School Administrative Center • 901 East Kennedy Blvd. • Tampa, FL 33602-3507
Website: www.sdhc.k12.fl.us
School District Main Office: 813-272-4000 • P.O. Box 3408 • Tampa, FL 33601-3408

band identifies how each child goes home: walker/bike rider, car rider, day care, or bus rider. Each bus has their own color-coded band. **Please keep this color-coded band on your child's backpack for the entire school year as it will assist your child and the Brooker staff in making sure they go home the designated way.** If the color-coded band comes off the backpack or the student's backpack is replaced during the year, it is important that you notify the teacher so that a new color-coded band can be placed on the backpack.

Our car line and the buses will run a little behind schedule the first week of school. Please understand that our staff takes great care to make sure that every child gets on the correct bus or is released to the designated individual. **It is important that, as the parent, you communicate in person or through written communication exactly how your child will go home. We are not able to make changes over the phone for the safety of all students.** We appreciate your patience, cooperation, and understanding as the safety of all our Brooker Bolts is of the utmost importance.

WALKING STUDENTS TO CLASS:

All parents, grandparents, guardians, and visitors who want to walk their child to class from 7:10 - 7:40 AM must sign in and out at the Front Office using their valid driver's license (Florida or other state), valid state ID card, passport, or green card. We will implement this policy beginning Thursday, August 13. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work together to provide a safe environment for all our students.

On the first day of school, each child will receive a packet of information, forms. The following forms must be completed, signed, and returned to the school for each student's file:

1. EMERGENCY CARD
2. ATTENDANCE POLICY LETTER
3. STANDARD OF CONDUCT FOR PUPILS RIDING SCHOOL BUSES FORM (All students)
4. STUDENT MEDIA RELEASE FORM

PLEASE RETURN ALL FORMS CORRECTED, COMPLETELY FILLED OUT, SIGNED AND DATED TO THE SCHOOL THE NEXT DAY.

In order to efficiently accommodate our large number of students and parents, ***Meet the Teacher*** will be held on Thursday, August 6 from 1:00-5:00. Specific information and times will be communicated soon. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students and parents to meet their teacher, learn about the policies and procedures of the classroom, and to receive specific knowledge on academic curriculum. It is important that masks are worn and that everyone practice social distancing. Please respect our neighbors in the community by observing the 25 mph speed limit and parking only on the campus of Brooker Elementary.

Thank you for being a part of our Brooker family. I know with your support and enthusiasm the 2000-2021 school year will be a success. **"Together Everyone Achieves More."**

Sincerely,

Julie Kelly
Principal

