

The B.E.S.T. NEWS

401 Jones Avenue, Oakland, CA 94603 (510)639-3310

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HOME OF THE LIONS

Principal's Message

As we prepare Brookfield students to be college and career ready, one area we must focus on is literacy. Many efforts are underway to promote literacy at our school. We are expanding both classroom libraries and the school library with new books. The Brookfield School Site Council (SSC) allocated \$10,000 towards levelled libraries. Our staff is engaging students with a reading train project to encourage them to read more books. We recently held a successful week-long Annual Book Fair. In addition, we have joined forces with a variety of groups and agencies to help our students become better readers. Reading Partners provides tutoring on site. The Family Literacy Program trains parents. The 100 Black Men organization donated a large variety of reading materials. Oakland Reads 2020 awarded Brookfield a \$1000 grant to support our Annual Literacy Night. We ask parents to team up for literacy by doing the following:

- Read to or listen to your children read for at least 20 minutes each evening.
- Talk to your child about what they are reading.
- Ask your child, "What is your reading level?" Your child should respond with a letter between A and Z.
- Make sure your child is present in school daily and on time. Most classes do literacy work during the mornings.

Marie Roberts, Principal



A special thank you to the parents who attended the first Principal's Café on Oct 27. It was a successful event.

Please plan to join us in December for the next Principal Café. Bring your questions, comments, suggestions and compliments.

Check the December calendar for details.

ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE

To motivate children to attend class every day, Oakland Natives Give Back and the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) are sponsoring the "EVERY DAY COUNTS" Attendance Challenge! From October 19 to November 19th, OUSD students with perfect attendance can compete for a chance to win \$500! 20 prizes will be awarded during this challenge! Register your child to participate at www.oaklandnatives.org/everydaycounts.



Special thanks to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Worker, AFL-CIO Local Union No. 1245 for their generous donation to Brookfield Elementary School.

You are cordially invited to attend the **District 7 Parent Forum** with **Superintendent Antwan Wilson**.

WHEN: Date Saturday, **November 14, 2015**, 9:30am

WHERE: Brookfield Elementary School

Help Your Child Succeed in School

Build the Habit of Good Attendance

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

Did you know?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing just 10% of school days can make it harder to learn. This is just a couple days every month and can happen before you know it.
- Children who miss too many days in kindergarten and first grade can struggle academically in later years and often are not reading at grade level by the end of third grade.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.
- Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

What you can do:

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out cloths and pack backpacks the night before.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she/he is truly sick.
- Avoid medical appointments when school is in session. Make appointment after school or on a minimum day.
- Avoid extended trips when school is in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, the principal, or school counselors for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 11, 2015
SCHOOL CLOSED FOR VETERAN'S DAY

NOVEMBER 14, 2015
SUPERINTENDENT PARENT FORUM
9:30 AM, BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY

NOVEMBER 16, 2015
PARENTS' WORKSHOP

NOVEMBER 18, 2015
MAKE-UP PICTURE DAY

NOVEMBER 20, 2015
AWARDS ASSEMBLY
K - 2ND GRADE: 9:00AM
GRADES 3-5: 10:45AM

NOVEMBER 23 - NOVEMBER 27
SCHOOL CLOSED
THANKSGIVING BREAK

Parent Announcement:

You are invited to attend parent meetings at the Brookfield Elementary School Parent Center every second and fourth Thursday of the month at 9:00am-10:30 am. Meetings are held in the Parent Center located in portable 30.

ENHANCING THE FABRIC OF THE FAMILY

The Institute for the Advanced Study of Black Family Life and Culture presents *Enhancing the Fabric of Family*, a program that:

- provides educational and alternative activities that focus on re-connecting families with positive aspects of their culture and tradition;
- supports the development of appropriate life style choices and changes;
- helps youth to think more positively about themselves, their family and their community;
- prevents Alcohol and other Drug use; and
- brings the community together as one loving and supportive family.

Enhancing the Fabric of Family meets every Tuesday from 3:30pm to 6:00pm in Portable 30. For more information, call 510-836-3245.

Volunteers Needed

We have an immediate need for volunteers to assist in the parking lot and in the front of the school in the mornings and the afternoons. Please let us know if you can help.