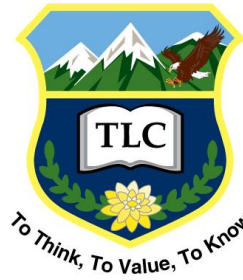


# BRENTWOOD BULLETIN



Calgary Board of Education  
www.cbe.ab.ca/b204

Virtue Focus of the Month – Paul Brandt

January 2011

1231 Northmount Drive N.W. T2L 0C9

Tel: 777-6130 Fax: 777-6132

## Administrator's Message

Welcome Back! I hope that everyone had an enjoyable Winter Break. Although we are not yet halfway through the school year, it is impressive how much work is being accomplished by the students, staff and parents of Brentwood School.

Looking back to December, although we were at school for only 13 days, we had many successful events.

We boxed up 18 very large boxes of food that were picked up by the Calgary Food Bank on December 16th. Thank you to everyone who made donations, once again demonstrating our virtues are in action in the lives of our families.

The Kindergarten and CSSI students entertained both the school community as well as their families with their songs and poems of the season. Thank you to all who attended these performances.

The Carol Singing that took place during the last few days of school in December certainly warmed all our hearts with the delightful singing from all of the students and staff. Thank you to the staff members who provided the leadership and the hats for the daily draws.

We are starting out the New Year with In Line Skating. It is such a joy to see how quickly the students progress with their skills in such a short period of time.

We will also have our TLC Information Evening for new families this week. If you have friends and acquaintances that are interested in attending the TLC program at Brentwood and are in the appropriate communities, please let them know. More information is included on our website. This is a meeting for parents only.

As we start 2011 together, we wish you continued success, good health and prosperity.

## Visual Attendance

It is important for our office staff to verify your child's absence as quickly as possible to ensure your child's safety. Therefore we are asking you to phone the absentee line at (403) 777-6130 ext. 1 which is open 24 hours or by 9 a.m. the day that your child will be absent.



## Board of Trustees Parent Meeting

All parents are invited to attend the System Parent Meeting. This meeting will provide parents with the opportunity to hear trustees speak on important topics in education and have discussions with their own trustee in smaller Ward groupings on topics of interest to parents. This is an excellent opportunity to connect with CBE decision-makers and ensure your voice is heard.

The meeting will take place on January 12th from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Meeting location and agenda will be posted on the website at [www.cbe.ab.ca](http://www.cbe.ab.ca).

## Upcoming Events

January 3rd	Inline Skating starts and continues until January 20 for Gr. 1-4 & CSSI
January 6th	7:00 p.m. – TLC Information evening (for new applicants)
January 10th	Kindergarten /TLC Registration Begins (for new applicants) and continues until March 15th
January 11th	School Council Meeting 1:45 pm in staffroom
January 27th	Special Lunch & Casual Day
January 28th	P.D. Day –No School for students
January 31st	P.D. Day- No School for students

Highlights of this Month's Newsletter available online: [www.cbe.ab.ca/204](http://www.cbe.ab.ca/204)

- Inline Skating
- Brentwood TLC Information Meeting
- GradeTwo Special Project
- Creating a Culture of Character
- Professional Development for Teachers
- Bow Valley College Work Experience
- Brentwood Clubs
- No School Days
- Parent Corner
  - Kindergarten Registration Begins
  - Open Houses
  - Parent Council News



**Inline Skating**

Inline skating begins Monday, January 3rd for some of our classes and during the next 3 weeks everyone in grades 1 to 4 and CSSI will have a chance to participate. Individual teachers (especially those of our younger students) will contact parents if they require volunteers to assist with this activity. The fee for this activity was included in the off-site and special activities fees that were paid for in October and early November.

**Brentwood Traditional Learning Centre Information Meeting**

This meeting on Thursday, January 6th, at 7:00 p.m. is for parents interested in learning more about or applying for the Traditional Learning Centre. **This meeting is for adults only.** Children will have an opportunity to visit the school later in the spring. Registrations will be available following the evening session and we will begin accepting registrations on January 10th and will continue until March 15th.



- If you currently have children in our program and will be registering siblings coming in at the kindergarten or grades 1-4 level, please complete your registration as soon as possible, and definitely prior to the end of February, so that we are able to ensure your child has a spot in the program.
- If you are registering children in grades 1-4 you must complete the required forms as well as provide a copy of their most recent report card along with their final report card from June 2010.
- If you know that your children are going to be leaving Brentwood School at the end of June or sooner, we would also appreciate it if you could let us know as soon as possible. This will help us in determining the space we have available for new applicants.
- Students currently registered in our grade 4 classes will automatically move into the grade 5 classes at T.B. Riley and do not require additional paper work. If you are planning on having your child attend other (i.e. their community school, etc.) please contact those schools soon as they will be offering their own open houses and information meetings within the next month or two. We will not be arranging for individual or groups of students to visit any programs other than our feeder school, T. B. Riley Middle School.

**Grade Two Special Project**

The grade 2 students are in need of small applesauce containers for an art project. If you have any that you can donate, please send them to the school by the end of the month.

**Creating a Culture of Character**

Our students continue their character journey towards making a difference in the lives of others and becoming responsible citizens. So far this year, we have studied the contributions of Terry Fox and Hannah Taylor, founder of the Ladybug Foundation.

As we move into January and February, our study turns to Paul Brandt, musician, humanitarian and Calgarian. Paul grew up in Calgary and has had great success as a country musician. But before he made it big in Nashville, Paul worked as a nurse at the Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH), an organization that he continues to support. Throughout the next two months, students will learn about Paul Brandt, the ACH, and why it is such an amazing place to have in Calgary.

As part of our study of Paul Brandt, we will be asking students to participate in a service during the month of February to benefit the Alberta Children's Hospital, centering on the idea of 'kids helping kids'. More information about this project will be coming home with your child in the next few weeks.

**Professional Development for Teachers**

Monday, January 31st is a system wide professional development day and all CBE teachers will engage in professional learning on this day. Our school will be working with the other TLC elementary schools to begin to develop common practices and expand communication between TLC sites.

**Bow Valley College Work Experience**

Mr. Kershaw and Mrs. Hawthorne will be hosting work experience students from Bow Valley College in their classrooms for the winter term. The experience of working in our Communication, Sensory and Social Interaction Program on a part time basis is an invaluable practical learning opportunity for these students and also provides extra support for our students. We welcome them to Brentwood and appreciate their time and contributions in our school.

**Brentwood Clubs**

Our extracurricular club program continues to be a huge success! Students and staff are excited about the fun opportunities available. To date, clubs have included Leadership, Environment Club, Technology Club, Photography Club, Quilting, Needlepoint, Grade 1 Games and Book Club. New Clubs are announced during morning announcements. If you have an idea for a club, please let Ms. Tuli know.



**No School Days for 2010-2011**

*Please note these dates are also in the student planners.*



February 17-18	Teachers Convention – no classes for students
February 21	Alberta Family Day – No School
March 25	Parent Teacher Conferences – no classes for students
March 28–April 1	Schools closed – Spring Break
April 22	Good Friday – No School
April 29	Professional Development Day – no classes for students
May 20	Professional Development Day – no classes for students
May 23	Victoria Day – schools closed
June 28	Appeals Day – no classes for students
June 29	Organizational Day – no classes for students
June 30	Organizational Day– no classes for students

**Parent Corner**  
**Kindergarten Registration**

Kindergarten registration begins on Monday, January 10th at all elementary schools for children eligible for Kindergarten in September 2011. Our office hours are from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.



Children who are four years old on or before March 1st, 2011 are eligible to enter the Kindergarten Program in September 2011. Please ensure that you bring your child's birth certificate with you at the time of registration.

For the TLC kindergarten program, **busing determines if your child will be in a morning or an afternoon class. Once we know which children are registered in our kindergarten TLC program the names and addresses are submitted to our transportation department who then determine which communities will come in the morning and which will come in the afternoon, so that we have a balanced number of children in the morning and afternoon. This will not be decided until late May or early June.**

**Thomas B. Riley School Traditional Learning Centre Open House**

The staff of Thomas B. Riley School invites all interested Area 1 residents to attend their Open House. We will begin promptly at 7 pm with an information session for parents, after which families will have a question and answer period. There will also be the opportunity to tour the school, listen to several of the fabulous musicians in our program and explore a number of displays showcasing the unique learning opportunities and features of the TLC program at Thomas B. Riley School.



Registration information for students new to the Traditional Learning Program for the 2011-2012 will be distributed to parents who attend our TLC Open House on January 13th. If you do not attend the open house, registration information is available online at our school website [www.cbe.ab.ca/b611](http://www.cbe.ab.ca/b611) After the registration deadline, which will be mid-March; registrations will be accepted based on availability of space in the program.

**German Bilingual Open House**

Information evening for parents interested in the German Bilingual program will be held at Bowcroft School/ Grundschule Bowcroft located at

Date: January 27th  
Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
Location: 3940 – 73 St. N.W.  
Phone: (403) 777-6020

Children are accepted into the program at Kindergarten and Grade 1. No initial language skills are required nor do parents need to be able to speak German.

**Varsity Acres School French Immersion Open House**

Invites you to their kindergarten and grade one French Immersion Open House. If you live in the following communities your children are eligible to attend Varsity Acres: Arbour Lake, Bowness, Citadel, Crestmont, Hamptons, Hawkwood, Montgomery, Ranchlands, Scenic Acres, Sherwood, Silver Springs, Tuscany, University Housing, Valley Ridge, Nolan Hill and Varsity Acres. The open house is Thursday, January 6, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. Children are welcome and babysitting is provided.

**Parent Council News**

Welcome Back and Happy New Year! We hope you had a relaxing Christmas break.

The next Parent Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 11th at 1:45 p.m. in the Staffroom. Everyone is welcome to attend.

December's Fun Lunch with pizza from Panago was another success. It was a nice way to end school before the Christmas Break. Our next Fun Lunch will be Thursday, January 27th, 2011.

Brentwood Parent Council will be holding the Annual Family Dance/Carnival on February 25th, 2011. We will keep you up to date with the plans and requests for volunteers as the time approaches.

Our next treat day will be Wednesday, January 12th, 2011.





January 2011

Happy New Year to our teachers, staff, students and their families.

Student success and achievement continues to be the Board's top priority and one aspect of this is Academic Success. Our Ends 2: Academic Success states that each student will possess the knowledge, skills and attitudes required for academic success and be effectively prepared for life, work and further learning.

We expect that students will acquire skills in the areas of language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, arts and information technologies.

In order to monitor how students are performing academically, the CBE employs a variety of measures. These include results from the Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT) and Diploma Examinations or Accountability Pillar surveys along with the CBE's Student Survey that more than 4,000 high school students responded to last year.

The Ends 2 monitoring report, which was received by the Board on December 7<sup>th</sup>, showed CBE student performance on the PAT's has improved from last year and students are performing above the provincial average.

The Board also considers student performance in comparison to students in countries around the world. Advanced Placement and International

Baccalaureate Diploma results are shown in the monitoring report. In 2010, our students exceeded world scores.

Last month, Alberta Education announced that Alberta students placed second in the world in reading and scientific literacy and eighth in mathematical literacy on the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) administered by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. Students from 65 other countries also participated in the assessment.

The Board is pleased that CBE students continue to perform well on provincial and international assessments, but we also recognized that work still needs to be done in some areas. We will continue to support new strategies in the classroom and teacher professional development that will improve student learning outcomes.

We welcome your input on issues in education that are important to you. Please visit our website for more information [www.cbe.ab.ca](http://www.cbe.ab.ca). You can also contact the Board at [boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca) or call 403-294-8487.

#### **Trustees**

Joy Bowen-Eyre – Wards 1 & 2  
Lynn Ferguson – Wards 3 & 4  
Pamela King – Wards 5 & 10  
George Lane – Wards 6 & 7  
Pat Cochrane – Wards 8 & 9  
Sheila Taylor – Wards 11 & 13  
Carol Bazinet – Wards 12 & 14