

# LBSS Middle School Student Services Summer Newsletter



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Lake Braddock! The 2019-2020 school year is right around the corner with Bruin Blast, the First Day of School, and Back to School Night quickly approaching!

We are looking forward to getting to know our new families and students, and working with you to make sure all of our Lake Braddock Bruins have a successful school year.

This newsletter contains a lot of great information on upcoming events and some helpful hints to assist you in navigating Lake Braddock. Please take a minute to read through this information and mark your calendars!

MS Student Services Team

## BRUIN NATION: UNDERSTANDING LAKE BRADDOCK'S CORE VALUES

In the spring of 2001, the Lake Braddock community, including parents, students, as well as school faculty and staff, was surveyed, with the help of the Ethics Resource Center, to determine which ideas best represented the values our people hold dear. Small discussion groups further honed the values concepts. One of our goals at Lake Braddock Secondary School is to integrate these values into our educational process and our every day life. Our newest core value, compassion, was added in the winter of 2014.

These core values will become a regular part of your student's vocabulary as we continue to highlight these attributes through our Bruin Pride program.

Students can demonstrate LBSS core values in many ways, including:

**Commitment:**

Always put forth best effort  
Persevere through adversity  
Complete assignments on time

**Respect:**

Follow adults' directions  
Positive attitude towards others  
Appropriate behavior

**Responsibility:**

Arrive to class on time  
Be prepared  
Positive contribution to school

**Integrity:**

Do the right thing  
Be honest  
Accept consequences

**Compassion:**

Demonstrate consideration of others  
Show empathy  
Be kind to everyone

### UPCOMING EVENTS FOR PARENTS

Bruin Blast.....8/22  
TJHSST Info Session.....9/3  
Back-to-School Night.....9/5  
New Parent  
Coffee.....9/20

### UPCOMING EVENTS FOR STUDENTS

Bruin Blast.....8/22  
First Day of School.....8/26  
TJHSST Info Session.....9/3



## SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS



All LBSS students have summer reading assignment.

Students can also start earning their service hours over the summer!

More information on summer assignments can be found on the Lake Braddock website at <https://lakebraddockss.fcps.edu/about/summer-assignments>

### NEEDS ASSESSMENT OPT OUT

You have the right to consent before your student participates in any federally-funded survey asking about any of the following: political affiliation or belief of the student or parent; mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family; sexual behavior or attitudes; illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior; critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships; legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers; religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent; and income (other than is required by law to determine program eligibility).

You have the right to opt your student out of participation in any survey, regardless of funding source, that requests information about the topics listed above or that requests medical information, information on student health risk behaviors related to alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs, other information on controlled substance use, or any other information that the School Board deems to be sensitive in nature. This includes the Needs Assessment counselors give to students at the start of the school year. If you would like to opt-out your child from our Needs Assessment, please contact your child's counselor before Tuesday, August 27th.

## JUMP START REGISTRATION

Jump Start is designed to assist rising seventh grade students in making the transition to Lake Braddock. Topics covered will include: a tour of the building, practice opening lockers, learning how to read your schedule and organize your materials, and a learning styles and study skills review.

***Don't forget all sessions run from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm and transportation is not provided for this program.***

Limited space is still available so please make sure you know which session you are scheduled to attend.

Session A: Monday, August 12th

Session B: Tuesday, August 13th

Session C: Wednesday, August 14th

Session D: Thursday, August 15th

Find more information on our website at:

[https://lakebraddockss.fcps.edu/ms\\_jumpstart\\_program](https://lakebraddockss.fcps.edu/ms_jumpstart_program)

**We are looking forward to meeting our newest Bruins!**



## COUNSELOR LESSONS: FALL 2019

### INTRODUCTION LESSIONS

Starting August 28th, all counselors will be going into English classes to introduce themselves to their students. They will complete activities to get to know the students, explain the role of the counselor in middle school, encourage regular use of the agenda planner as a time management/organizational tool, and introduce the Core Connections tutoring program.

One critical piece of this lesson is a completion of our Needs Assessment. This brief survey is given to all students and lets the counselors know what types of programs we should focus on. It also allows students to note any counseling groups they may be interested in participating in. Parents have the right to opt their student out of the Needs Assessment. If you would like to view the Needs Assessment, please contact your child's counselor.

In addition to the classroom visit, counselors will be holding individual conferences with each 7th grade student in the month of September.

### BULLYING AND HARASSMENT PREVENTION

School counselors will be visiting all middle school social studies classes beginning the week of October 1st for bullying and harassment lessons. Seventh grade students are going to learn how to identify different roles individual students take in bullying situations, how to respond to someone who is bullying, and how to report incidents of bullying through their online accounts. Eighth grade students are going to learn about the seriousness of discriminatory and sexual harassment, its consequences, and how to report it if it happens. Counselors will also have discussions with students about how the world of social media is impacted by cyberbullying and harassment, and how to react online.

## BACK TO SCHOOL EVENTS...WHAT TO EXPECT

### BRUIN BLAST

Bruin Blast will be the first opportunity you and your student will have to see their schedule for the 2019-2020 school year and receive their locker information. You will receive a flyer with Bruin Blast information as a part of your virtual welcome back packet in August, but here are some additional details to help you navigate this busy morning.

MS Bruin Blast will take place on **Thursday, August 22nd** between 8 am and 11 am. Please keep in mind that this is an open house and you do not need to be there right at 8 am. There are a few things you will want to do at Bruin Blast, but they do not need to be completed in any particular order.

#### \* **Pick Up Your Schedule and Locker Information in the Cafeteria (8-9:30 AM)**

- \* When you arrive in the cafeteria you will see a series of tables set up with the alphabet breakdown posted above the tables.
- \* Make sure you bring the required forms and have taken care of any obligations you may have! For middle school students these forms include:
  1. Emergency Care Card—yes you need to have this with you even if you updated it online!
  2. Health Information
  3. MS After School Participation FormPlease note: Families that registered over the summer will not be required to duplicate forms completed at registration.
- \* At each table there will be two teachers, one to collect your forms and make sure all paperwork is in order, and another to distribute your student's schedule/locker information. If there are any issues with your paperwork, schedule, or locker, you will be directed toward someone who can assist you.

#### \* **Map Out Your Schedule**

- \* When you pick up your student schedule, a map of the building and schedule template will be provided for you. You can start planning the best routes to get to your classes and when the best time to go to your locker might be!

#### \* **Go Find Your Classes and Meet Your Teachers**

- \* Once you have your schedule this is a great opportunity to go check out where your classes are.
- \* SCA, SGA, and Student Ambassador students will be available to assist you in locating classrooms and opening lockers.

#### \* **Set Up Your Locker**

- \* Once you have your schedule/locker information you will have plenty of time to practice your locker combination and bring in your school supplies!
- \* Many students struggle with opening their lockers. If you are experiencing difficulty there will be Bruin Ambassadors available to help you, along with other school staff. If you continue to experience issues opening your locker, you can fill out a locker repair form in the cafeteria. The custodial staff will be sure to check each locker before the first day of school.

#### \* **Newly Registered 8th Grader Welcome (9:30-10:00 AM in the Lecture Hall)**

- \* 8th grade students who registered over the summer are invited to speak to counselors and students about Lake Braddock and meet other students from their team.

#### \* **Add Money to Your Lunch Account in the Cafeteria**

- \* Our cafeteria staff will be available to add money to your student's lunch account.
- \* Don't forget you can also do this through [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com).

#### \* **Purchase Bruin Gear and Join the PTSA in the Gymnasium**

#### \* **Purchase Your PE Uniform Online (AVAILABLE NOW)**

- \* Many families may have already ordered their PE Uniform online. If you have not done so already use this link to purchase your PE Uniform: [athleticunion.com/lake-Braddock](http://athleticunion.com/lake-Braddock). For free shipping use code: #LAKEBRADDOCK
- \* Please note that PE Uniforms will not be available for purchase in person during Bruin Blast. The link above will be provided.

### BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Middle School Back to School Night will take place on **Thursday, September 5th** at 6:30 pm. Students will be sent home with a flyer for Back to School Night on Thursday, August 29th during their 6th period class. Remind them to give you this flyer as it will have a copy of their schedule printed for you along with a map of the building. If your student forgets to give you the flyer you can always pick up a copy of your student's schedule in the Career Center that evening. **NEW THIS YEAR:** Based on parent feedback, we will be hosting a parent presentation before Back to School Night in the Little Theatre. The program will begin at 5:45 PM and will focus on how to support your middle school student and help them develop a "growth mindset".

### NEW PARENT COFFEE

The New Parent Coffee is a great opportunity to meet with the Middle School Student Services team and have them answer any questions you may still have about Lake Braddock. The New Parent Coffee will take place on **Friday, September 20th** from 8:30-9:30 am in the Lake Braddock Lecture Hall. Make sure you plan for a few extra minutes to find parking.

## CAN WE TALK...

Students are able to request to see their counselor in the MS Student Services Office, or by filling out our electronic *Can We Talk* form. This form can be found in our Google Classroom or by using this link:



## TIPS FOR COMMUNICATING WITH TEACHERS

- \* Make sure you have access to your SIS ParentVue and FCPS 24-7 (Blackboard) accounts. In addition to the emailed progress reports, you will be able to check your child's grades anytime through SIS ParentVue. (Access to view student grades will be turned on September 10th.)
- \* Make sure to read and understand your child's course syllabi. Pay close attention to their grading and second chance assessment policies.
- \* Reach out to your child's counselor. They meet weekly with their teams to discuss students. If you have any concerns, this is a great place to start!
- \* Email the teacher directly. Teachers may not have a chance to check voicemail during the school day, so email is usually the most efficient way to communicate.

## GRADING AND REPORTING

Parents will receive an FCPS generated weekly email with their student's grades in all classes. This email will just contain the student's overall grade in each class. For more detailed information on your student's grade you will need to access your SIS ParentVue account. Access to student grades will be available starting on September 9th through your SIS ParentVue account. This will be a great tool for you to stay informed of your child's progress in all



their academic classes. Weekly progress reports will be sent starting September 9th.

With the addition of weekly progress reports, we will be emailing home fewer detailed progress reports. Detailed progress reports will be emailed at interim and at the end of each quarter.

Report cards will be carried home by students at the end of each quarter.

For additional information on FCPS' new grading and reporting policies, please visit <https://www.fcps.edu/academics/grading-and-reporting/secondary>

## GETTING TO KNOW YOUR SUBSCHOOL

At Lake Braddock each student is assigned to a subschool. In middle school subschools are assigned by grade; in high school subschools are assigned by last name. Below you will find some helpful information regarding why you may contact your subschool.

### Subschool 1: 7<sup>th</sup> grade

Office number: 703-426-1110  
Attendance Line Number: 703-426-1181  
Administrator: Josie Rodriguez-Walhout  
Administrative Assistant: Denisse Gordon

### Subschool 2: 8<sup>th</sup> grade

Office number: 703-426-1120  
Attendance Line Number: 703-426-1182  
Administrator: Lance Jackson  
Administrative Assistant: Annie Davidow



### Absences:

- \* LBSS has an attendance line for each subschool. Parents/Guardians should use the attendance line when calling in their student's absence or tardy.

### Late Check-Ins:

- \* Students should report to their subschool with a note to sign in. They will then be provided with a pass to class.

### Early Check-Outs (NEW THIS YEAR):

- \* Students should bring a note to their subschool in the morning. They will then be provided with a pass to leave class. Notes must include the name of the person picking up the student. This person must also be listed as an emergency contact.
- \* Students must sign out of school through their subschool before leaving the building.
- \* Students will meet parents/guardians **inside** the main entrance at the security desk. The person picking up the student must come in and show their ID at the security desk.

### Locker Issues:

- \* Locker repair forms will be available in subschool offices during the school year. Students should complete this form if they are having issues with their locker.



## SIS PARENTVUE AND STUDENTVUE ACCOUNTS

**SIS ParentVue** will provide access to view your child's student information, including attendance, report cards, class schedules, gradebook (for middle and high school students), course history, discipline, health, and school information.

A mailing will be sent during the week of August 12th to all newly registered students' parents. A second mailer will go out during the week of September 16th to parents of any new students registered between August 12th and September 13th. These mailers will include detailed instructions on how to create your account. You have each been assigned a unique activation code which you must use to register. The user must provide a valid email address to create the account. After these two mailings, parents will need to request an account at <https://www.fcps.edu/resources/technology/student-information-system-sis-fcps/sis-parent-account-overview>

Please note: SIS will be live on August 22nd, but grades will not be available until September 9th.

**SIS StudentVue** will allow students access to this information as well. Students will use the same login they use to access school computers. Students can access StudentVue through [https://sisstudent.fcps.edu/SVUE/Login\\_Student\\_PXP\\_OVR.aspx](https://sisstudent.fcps.edu/SVUE/Login_Student_PXP_OVR.aspx)

**FCPS 24-7 Learning ParentView** will provide access to view all of your child's available courses, Family Connection to view academic and career planning (for middle and high school students), and bus stop information. You can also update your child's emergency care information through weCare@school. FCPS 24-7 will be accessed using the same login for your SIS ParentVue account. Parents must have an active SIS ParentVue account to be able to login to FCPS 24-7 Learning.

If you are having any issues accessing your FCPS 24-7 Learning or ParentVue account, please use the link below to notify the school of the issue: <https://itweb.fcps.edu/ParentView/index.cfm>



## MIDDLE SCHOOL AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM (MSASP) - #BruinsStayAfter

Lake Braddock's MS After-School Program offers a wide variety of clubs including recreation, social, life skills and academic enrichment activities. In addition, staying after to receive academic assistance from your classroom teacher is considered part of the after-school program. In middle school, students choose specific clubs of interest and attend on those meeting dates- it is up to them to stay current with club announcements/cancellations.

Students **MUST** be registered in the After-School Program. It is a required **form** for the 2019-2020 school year.

### **After-School Program Hours:**

Clubs and activities are offered 5 days a week from 2:45 – 4:40PM. Late buses are available on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 4:50PM. Parent pick-up is required on Wednesdays and Fridays as well as after 4:50PM on late bus days.

\*Please note that a limited amount of clubs meet on Wednesdays and Fridays.

*The schedule with club descriptions will be posted to the LBSS Website.*

**Questions?** Please contact Ms. Alexandra Bryan ([ambryan@fcps.edu](mailto:ambryan@fcps.edu))

**\*\*\*Parents, if you are interested in volunteering or sponsoring a particular club after school, please contact Ms. Bryan. Ideas, assistance and support are encouraged and always welcomed.\*\*\***

## WE BELIEVE...

Excellence in education will lead students to be positive influences in the community and to attain fulfilling careers.

Students thrive when their individual needs are identified and met in a vibrant, healthful, safe, enriching, and respectful environment.

Students learn about their personal value and potential to contribute to society through a variety of programs and opportunities at school.

Students of varying abilities and strengths can mutually benefit in a diverse classroom environment.

Learning is relevant to students when they apply their experiences in school to a variety of other settings.

Educators have a crucial role to hold all students to high expectations which will provide a foundation for future success.

The achievement gap is an academic disparity between groups of students that can be completely eliminated through equitable access to academic instruction.

All students shall have access to a school counselor who advocates for their academic, career, and personal/social needs.

All students shall have access to a school counseling curriculum that enables to become effective communicators; collaborators; creative critical thinkers; global and ethical citizens; and goal-directed, resilient individuals and learners.

Lake Braddock Secondary School  
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Burke, VA 22015  
Phone: 703-426-1030  
Fax: 703-426-1193



## MS STUDENT SERVICES VISION AND MISSION

### Vision Statement

All students at Lake Braddock Middle School are empowered to use their unique personalities, abilities, and values to achieve their fullest academic potential as they navigate toward a fulfilling and productive future. Students are supported by a comprehensive school counseling program that inspires and encourages continued growth and progress for each child, regardless of their background. School counselors help students access learning by identifying and removing barriers to their success, which promotes a school environment that is nurturing, safe, and equitable for all. A collaborative partnership between families, the school, and the community fosters a high quality education that offers students a broad range of opportunities and is free of achievement gaps. As a result, students leave Lake Braddock as self-sufficient, goal-oriented individuals who are prepared to make a positive impact on society.

### Mission Statement

The mission of Lake Braddock Middle School Counseling is to empower students to achieve high academic standards, lead ethical lives, and to be responsible and innovative members of a diverse global society. As part of a comprehensive school counseling program, counselors analyze data and work collaboratively and effectively with the school community to meet the unique academic, career, and personal-social needs of all students, by name and by need. Achievement gaps are identified and reduced so every student has access to and experiences success in high quality instructional programs. Lake Braddock's diverse student body is presented with a variety of counseling methods that help them discover talents, increase competence, develop imagination, and expand their academic and personal horizons.

## Middle School Student Services Contact Information

Anne C. Polino Director of Student Services	ACPolino@fcps.edu	703-426-1030 Room N-128
Angela Santizo Student Services Assistant	ASSantizo@fcps.edu	703-426-1030 Room N-134
Patricia Fausser Registrar	PCFausser@fcps.edu	703-426-1030 Room N-136
Tracey Butler-Johnson Golden Knights, 7 <sup>th</sup> Purple Pride, 8 <sup>th</sup>	TBJohnson@fcps.edu	703-426-1037 Room N-140
Melissa Staab Red Hot Chili Peppers, 7 <sup>th</sup> Red Eagles, 8 <sup>th</sup>	MKStaab@fcps.edu	703-426-1035 Room N-130
Ian Brodie Purple Piranhas, 7 <sup>th</sup> Gold Magic, 8 <sup>th</sup>	IBrodie@fcps.edu	703-426-1049 Room N-133
Kristin Girardin Blue Dolphins, 7 <sup>th</sup> Blue Sharks, 8 <sup>th</sup>	KEGirardin@fcps.edu	703-426-1036 Room N-135
Joshua Miles Neon Roadrunners, 7 <sup>th</sup> Green Dragons, 8 <sup>th</sup>	JJMiles@fcps.edu	703-426-1034 Room N-131
Elizabeth Mynar Social Worker	EMynar@fcps.edu	703-426-1039 Room N-148
Walena Haider Psychologist	WHaider@fcps.edu	703-426-1085 Room N-142
Scott Darwin Assessment Coach/SOSA	SCDarwin@fcps.edu	703-426-6428 Room N-150