

What a nice weekend we had with the weather. This upcoming week, we will have colder weather and one day a bit warmer. Please make sure to watch the weather reports so your child is dressed appropriate for outdoor recess....

Here is what is happening at Brookdale:

ILLINOIS 5 ESSENTIAL PARENT SURVEY

Teachers, parents, and middle and high school students across Illinois have the opportunity to participate in the 5Essentials Survey. This survey was designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of your Illinois child's school. As a parent, your voice is essential to help us understand the conditions at your child's school and guide improvement.

The state provides survey results for individual schools **only if a school has at least 20 percent of parents** take the survey. **As of today, 34% (194 Brookdale parents) took the survey.** Please take a moment to share your feedback today. Please know that each parent for a child can take the survey! We would love **every parent at Brookdale** to participate.

If you have children attending more than one school, we ask that you complete the survey for each school. You may also complete the survey more than once if you have more than one child in the same school. All survey responses are kept confidential. University of Chicago asks parents for an email address when they begin the survey only for the purpose of sending a confirmation once the survey is completed. University of Chicago will never connect your identity and survey responses to you or your child or share the information with your school, the district or the Illinois State Board of Education.

To take this short survey:

1. Visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/survey/parent/login/>.
2. Type and then select **Dupage** as District 204's County location. This is the county associated with the district, not the location of an individual school.
3. Type your school's name into the School field and then select your school.

WHAT IS #FUTUREREADY204?

Community members are invited to attend the next Engage 204 session on January 29 from 7 to 9 pm at Still Middle School, 787 Meadowridge Drive, Aurora. This session will focus on "What is #FutureReady204?" Experts have stated that the majority of students entering elementary school today will be working in jobs that have not been created yet, using tools that have not been invented yet, solving problems that have not been thought of yet. During this interactive session, administrators will share how education is changing to help students develop life and work skills that will be needed in the future.

Engage 204 is a collaborative process between the community and District 204. Key to the success of this process is the collaboration and discussion between participants. District residents who attend will have the unique opportunity to share ideas and discuss topics in small groups in order to provide feedback to the Board of Education. Findings and recommendations will be presented to the Board of Education by July 2018. All District 204 residents are invited to participate in Engage 204.

RSVP is appreciated, but not required
at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Engage204RSVP>.

For more information, visit <http://engage204.org>.

IS TEAM IPEF CALLING YOU???

Are you interested in helping to raise money for Brookdale students and staff? Team IPEF may be what you are looking for! Early registration is open at this time for those who want to run in the half-marathon OR 5K. This year, the school with the most runners in either event will win an additional \$1,000.00!! As of right now, we have 3 staff already signed up! If you want to be part of Brookdale Team IPEF, check out [Team IPEF 2018](#) for more information.

PDAC MEETING RECAP AND UPCOMING EVENTS

On January 18, 2018, the Parent Diversity Advisory Council (PDAC) hosted a meeting titled, *Understanding and Addressing Religious Advantages: How do students' religions advantage and disadvantage them in school?* Conversations on addressing religious and non-religious considerations took place, as well as deliberation over possible scenarios. The meeting presentation slides can be found under [Archived Meeting Notes](#). Please visit the [PDAC subpage](#) for more information.

PDAC invites the community to a free screening of the film "Backpack Full of Cash" on January 25, 2018, 6:45 p.m., at Metea Valley High School. Narrated by Matt Damon, this documentary explores the growing privatization of public schools and the resulting impact on America's most vulnerable children. To learn about this film and to RSVP, please visit [HERE](#).

Please save the date for April 19, 2018, 6:30 p.m., at Still Middle School for MULTICULTURAL READING NIGHT. This is a districtwide event for elementary students to be exposed to multi-lingual literature, receive a free book and engage with others in celebrating multilingualism. More information about this event will be forthcoming.

THE GREATEST BROOKDALE (TALENT) SHOW

The talent show is March 9! Any interested students in grades 3-5 are welcome to audition on **February 20th** after school. If your child is interested in auditioning, please click on the link below and fill out the information by **FEBRUARY 15th**:
<https://goo.gl/forms/G4tcxLnYZS8mQF5A3>

More details about auditions will be forthcoming to students who sign up. If you have any questions, contact Mr. Rust or Ms. Iwinski (colin_rust@ipdsd.org, alice_iwinski@ipdsd.org).

HEALTH REMINDERS FROM NURSE LYNN

- If your child is running a fever of one hundred (100) degrees or greater, please keep your child at home until the temperature has been less than one hundred (100) degrees for twenty-four (24) hours, without the use of fever-reducing medications.

- If your child is experiencing vomiting or diarrhea, please keep your child at home until these concerns have been resolved for twenty-four (24) hours, and your child is tolerating food.
- Colds and respiratory viruses are common during the school year. If your child is coughing continuously or has green-colored nasal secretions, you may wish to consult with your medical provider and follow his/her directions.
- If your child is diagnosed with a contagious illness such as strep throat, measles, chicken pox, pertussis, or influenza please notify the school as soon as possible.
- As a reminder, frequent hand washing with soap and water is the primary way to prevent the spread of illness.
- Please see attached flier as a reminder about when a child should stay home or come to school.

LET THE SCHOOL KNOW ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE

Please remember to call the attendance line (operates 24/7) to leave a message regarding your child's attendance. The attendance line # is: 630-428-6810. OR, if you email your child's teacher regarding the absence, please include eva_fiala@ipsd.org and cindy_minch@ipsd.org (our office staff). If your child is not at school and we do not receive a call or not about the reason, it is marked as Unexcused.

IN-COMING KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

The Pre-Registration Form for Kindergarten students for 18-19 school year is going to be available mid-February. Please mark your calendar for the Kindergarten Parent Preview Night for Monday, March 12th at 7:00pm. Feel free to share with neighbors or friends with an incoming Kindergarten student.

YOUNG AUTHOR PROGRAM

Brookdale Elementary is again participating in the Young Author's Program this school year. This program is for students in second grade through fifth grade. There are very strict guidelines in what needs to be handed in, which is outlined in the attached paperwork. If your child chooses to participate, please make sure to read the entire packet in order to following the guideline requirements. We are hoping to have a lot of student participation this year! The stories (following the guidelines) are due to classroom teachers by Monday, February 12, 2018.

BROOKDALEPRIDE

Did you know we have a personal Twitter hashtag - #BrookdalePride? Are you following Brookdale School on Twitter @BrookdaleBobcat? You can follow us to see all the fun and cool things going on at Brookdale Elementary!

UPCOMING WEEK AT A GLANCE:

Monday, January 29th

- Project Arrow Testing Begins - by teacher or parent request - **2nd through 5th grade students only**
- Engage 204 Meeting: Focus on "What is #futureready204?" at Still MS - **7:00pm to 9:00pm**

Tuesday, January 30th

- Typical Day at Brookdale

Wednesday, January 31st

- Late start - **first bell rings at 9:00am with Tardy Bell rings at 9:15am**
- Last day to take the Illinois5Essential Survey at <https://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/survey/parent/login/>
- Therapy Dogs here to Read with Students - **9:30am to 11:00am**
- PTA Enrichment Classes for Wednesday Begins - **3:40pm to 4:30pm**
- **OPEN HOUSE at Cowlshaw** for Students due to Elementary Attendance Area Adjustments - **6:00pm**

Thursday, February 1st

- Chorus Practice - **7:50am to 8:50am**
- Group Pictures and Fifth Grade Class Picture - **9:00am to 11:00am**
- PTA Enrichment Classes for Thursday Begins - **3:40pm to 4:30pm**
- **OPEN HOUSE at May Watts** for Students due to Elementary Attendance Area Adjustments - **6:30pm**

Friday, February 2nd

- Typical Day at Brookdale

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Monday, February 12, 2018 - Young Author stories due
- Thursday, March 1, 2018 - NO SCHOOL - Parent/Teacher Conference (by appointment or need only)
- Friday, March 2, 2018 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Institute Day
- Monday, March 12, 2018 - Kindergarten Parent Preview Night - **7:00pm**

Sincerely,

Mary Howicz

Brookdale Principal

630-428-6800