

# Bryant Bulletin

August 29, 2018



## Staff Spotlight— Ms. Melissa Walker

Ms. Walker is a new addition to our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Reading/Language Arts Team. Ms. Walker has a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and will complete her Master's in Reading in the spring of 2019. Ms. Walker is beginning her 5<sup>th</sup> year teaching. She works in education because she wants to have a part in creating the future by teaching children the skills needed to be productive citizens and live happy lives. Plus, as Ms. Walker says, "Kids are awesome!" Ms. Walker loves that her students teach *her* something new each day. Ms. Walker's favorite moments in education all involve helping students learn to read and develop a passion for reading. Some of Ms. Walker's favorite hobbies outside of school include reading, watching TV, and learning to cook new recipes. Ms. Walker helps create a culture of care and kindness

at Bryant by treating everyone with mutual respect, prioritizing relationships, and having positive interactions with others. We are thrilled to welcome Ms. Walker to the Bryant family!!

## *Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message*

Last week, we began discussing our Wildly Important Goal of Student Growth which is one goal we are focusing on this year. We discussed the importance of goal setting and how we will use goal setting with students to encourage intrinsic motivation and growth.

In order for students to master a year of growth or more, students need to attend school regularly. This past school year our average attendance rate was 96.5% which could be a little higher. While illness cannot be avoided, absences for family vacations, cheer camps, and extended holidays can easily be avoided. In order to build higher attendance rates, we must work together to ensure students are in school when not sick. As a campus we are also beginning attendance incentives such as grading period attendance awards, yearly attendance awards, weekly grade level attendance rewards, and monthly attendance rewards involving our new Treasure Tower. Find out how you can help encourage student attendance by [clicking here](#).

In next week's Bryant Bulletin, we will discuss our Wildly Important Goal of Writing Improvement.

**FYI:** Now that we have our car rider line finished by 8:20am, any student arriving after 8:20am will need to be escorted into the building by a parent/guardian. Please remember that you must show your current ID in order to gain entrance into the building. The parent/guardian will then sign the student in at the front office for the day.

**Reminder:** Our arrival and dismissal procedures have been running much more smoothly this week. Thank you to everyone for working together to follow a common set of expectations for arrival and dismissal. When everyone works together, we can keep all kids safe and ensure an efficient system. Arrival and dismissal procedures can be found in our [Student/Parent Handbook](#).

**After School Program:** The Abrakadoodle Company will be offering after school art enrichment beginning in mid-September. There will be two sessions, September 12-October 17 and October 31-December 12. If you are interested in this program, [click here](#) to learn more or enroll. Please note that outside companies rent space at the school and are overseen by the company and its employees. Bryant Staff and Administration are not involved and do not oversee the programs. These companies have their own method of releasing walkers, bikers, car riders, etc.

## Website / Event Calendar

### **Thursday, August 30**

2nd Grade Curriculum Night, 5:45-6:15pm

3rd Grade Curriculum Night, 6:30-7:00pm

### **Monday, September 3**

Labor Day- School Holiday

### **Tuesday, September 4**

Lunch visitors begin, once per week. Only lunch visitors listed on the form from the 1st Day Envelope will be allowed to enter the building and have access to your student during lunch. We abide by your written instruction provided to us on the Katy ISD Lunch Visitor Form in order to ensure your student's safety.

### **Monday, September 3**

Core Essential Kickoff- Wear Khaki/Light Brown for Initiative.

### **Monday, September 10- Friday, September 14**

Grandparents Week. Grandparents are invited to visit one day during the week and sit with their grandchild(ren) at their *class lunchroom table*. Grandparents must be listed on the Katy ISD Lunch Visitor Form sent home in the 1st Day Envelope.

### **Thursday, September 6**

PTA VIPS Kickoff, 9-10:00am in the cafeteria

### **Wednesday, September 12**

District No Homework Night

### **Tuesday, September 18- Thursday, September 27**

PTA Boosterthon Fundraising Program

### **Wednesday, September 19**

Progress Reports sent home

### **Wednesday, September 26**

College Shirt Day

### **Thursday, September 27**

Boosterthon Obstacle Course during specials times

# Office and Other Information

- Click [HERE](#) for the Bryant Website
- Click [HERE](#) for Katy ISD Home Access Center (HAC). Register to gain access to grades, e-news, etc.

## Follow us via social media:

Facebook= [Bryant Elementary](#)

Twitter= [@BryantElem](#) [#bengalpride](#)

## From the Counselor:

Our Core Value for the month of September is **INITIATIVE**. Initiative means seeing what needs to be done and doing it. It's like the quote from Louis Brandeis "Most of the things worth doing in the world have been declared impossible before they were done." Please help us kick off this month's trait by wearing khaki, or light brown, on Wednesday, September 5th. Below are some great activities that you can do with your family to show initiative!

### BE IT:

- Find a chore in your home that needs to be done and do it without being asked.
- Volunteer to help make dinner.
- Pick up a piece of trash at school even if it is not yours.

**No Place for Hate/Kindness Crew:** We are looking for parents who would like to serve on our Kindness Crew Parent Committee. We would meet a minimum of four times during the school year to discuss ways of creating an inclusive, kind campus. A parent's perspective is greatly appreciated to help further the growth of this program. If you are interested, please sign up by [clicking here](#). This link will close on **September 7<sup>th</sup>**.

# Home to School Connection

## SHORT NOTES

### Attendance adds up

Students who attend school regularly tend to have better attitudes toward school—and they're more likely to read at grade level. Try to schedule your child's doctor and dentist appointments outside of school hours. Also, be sure to create a backup plan for getting her to school if she misses the bus or you can't drive her.

### The importance of integrity

What would your youngster say if a classmate asked him to cheat? Talk to him about how to respond if he's pressured to share answers or let others copy his work. For example, he could say, "Let's study together so we both do well," or "I don't want to risk getting a zero."

# Information from the PTA

## *Welcome from the President*

Greetings fellow Bengals! I hope you had a restful and relaxing summer! My name is Flora Rogers and I'm honored and excited to serve as your PTA President for the 2018-2019 school year. First, I want to warmly welcome all new incoming families to Bryant Elementary.

Along with the rest of the PTA Board, I'd like to thank you for being here at Bryant. Parents are important to a school's success. Our PTA's responsibility is to support Bryant Elementary. In addition to hosting fun events throughout the year, we also provide funds, programs, and volunteers for our teachers and staff. We'll be supporting some favorites such as the Bryant Family Dance, Movie Night, and The Giving Tree. We also have some exciting additions such as a Student Holiday Shop with Santa, and a Dinosaur Museum coming to Bryant.

All of this takes hard work, dedication, and commitment from our community, parents, teachers and staff. Each one of us have different talents and skills which we contribute to make Bryant a special place. There are many opportunities to help and we appreciate your time and energy spent making our organization a successful one. Please join PTA and please find some time to volunteer throughout the school year. There's lots to be done at Bryant, which requires lots of help. We would love to have you join us, whether it's at home cutting out lamination or in person in our work room. Thirty minutes to an hour is worth so much! The more parents get involved, the less work there is and the more vibrant our school becomes!

Also, please support our Spirit Nights as we can earn money for our school.

For all you social media members please [like us on Facebook!](#) We will update Facebook with important information and post reminders throughout the year.

I look forward to seeing, meeting & working with each of you this year.

Sincerely,

Flora Rogers

## *Bengal Volunteers of the Month (Summer)*

Our Bengal Volunteers did an amazing job last year! This summer was a busy one for our PTA Board - training, preparing and more oh my! Congratulations to our Bengal Volunteers for Summer 2018, April Simmons and BobbiJo Watson! Thank you for all those extra hours you put in this summer! Next time this can be you! Come join our volunteer team and help make our kiddos' year memorable!



## *PTA VIPS Kickoff – September 6<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am*

Come and Find out about all the different Volunteer options at Bryant Elementary. If you are unable to attend and would still like information on volunteering, please email our VP of Volunteers Kathalyn Garza at [bryantptavolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:bryantptavolunteers@gmail.com).

## ***Order a Yearbook Now...***

Yearbooks for the 2018-2019 year are now available to pre-order. The cost is \$30.00 until October 26th, with discounts on personalization available. Please visit this link to place your order:

<https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/customer/2735885/Bryant-Elementary-School/>

If you have any questions or would like to email any school pictures you may have to our Yearbook Chair, please contact Robin Marcoulier at [bryantptayearbook@gmail.com](mailto:bryantptayearbook@gmail.com). Thank you!

## ***Student Birthday Information***

Due to privacy, our school does not publish any type of formal directory of student information. However, some parents would like to provide their child's information to other parents for play dates, birthday party invitations, etc. In order to facilitate this, a Google Form has been created for each grade level. If you would like to share your information and your child(ren)'s information, you can fill out the information requested at each grade level link. This is completely voluntary. The links will be live through September 5<sup>th</sup>. After the 5<sup>th</sup>, the compiled information for each grade will be emailed to everyone who has chosen to participate. Information provided will not be considered private. The information will be shared only with parents who also provide their student's information. However, parents could share information with others. Again, this is completely optional and voluntary.

Kindergarten- <https://goo.gl/forms/i62Vjsw2oubxr2Du2>

1st Grade- <https://goo.gl/forms/ZaNW9DIsUVyfyiLX2>

2nd Grade- <https://goo.gl/forms/R1I5WHR3J7wmL2uD3>

3rd Grade- <https://goo.gl/forms/CFvc5ZYrfi3JUEPR2>

4th Grade- <https://goo.gl/forms/YO4Pf2EQVetg3Kgu1>

5th Grade- <https://goo.gl/forms/ZsHT6DxgNs2CQLC72>

ECAP/YCAP- <https://goo.gl/forms/2QhbpQS0gGuCLlhd2>

## ***Website***

Visit the PTA website for up to date information by [clicking here](#).

## ***Facebook***

Check out the [Bryant PTA Facebook page](#) for information, pictures, and other great information.