

BROOKS COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL



Home of the 2009 Provincial Champions in AAA Girls Volleyball

650 – 4th Ave. East, Brooks AB T1R 0Z4
403-362-4814 or <http://lbchs.grasslands.ab.ca>

July 2009 Newsletter

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PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Students:

In this edition you will find information about our school and the upcoming school year.

I would also like to wish everyone a great summer. Along with the staff, we are really excited about the upcoming school year. I look forward to working with all parents/guardians to help make the high school years successful and memorable for all students.

Sincerely,

G. Jensen
Principal BCHS

UNDERSTANDING THE STUDENT TIMETABLE

Enclosed please find information pertaining to your **2009 – 10** registration at Brooks Composite High School. The individual timetable attached provides information including times of classes, room location, and the teacher you are assigned to for each class on your timetable. You will note that the timetable is based on **six periods per day** and a **semestered** school year. The timetable is based on the master timetable grid shown on the next page. (page 2).

Five Credit Classes: On the Master Timetable Grid on page 2, you will notice that classes are designated A through H. Five credit courses such as English or Science occupy 2 blocks (**i.e. A and B**).

Full Year Classes: Music 10, 20, 30 (instrumental), are 5 credit courses which occupy 2 blocks (one in each semester) and run all year.

3 Credit Classes: Classes that occupy 1 block (**i.e. Block C**) in one semester are 3 credit courses.

NOTE: Students registered in **Instrumental Jazz** will notice that they are assigned to take this course during **Period 6/Block I**. This class is set by the instructor at the start of the school year.

Jazz Dance will see this class as **Period 6/BLOCK I** which runs after school. Students registered in Jazz Dance will see this appear in the afternoon after the “regular” school day

Rotating Block: Your timetable shows a blank in the third period on Fridays. This is the **rotating block** that changes every week. The **Rotating Block** will vary from week to week in the following order A, C, E, G, B, D, F, H. This allows the school to meet the time requirement for courses and to have classes in a different time slot than normal.

BCHS Timetable 2009-2010

TIME	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
Warning 8:29 8:32	A	D	B	A	B
9:41	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1
Warning 9:46 9:49	C	A	D	C	D
10:55	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2
Warning 11:00 11:03	B	C	E	H	Rotating Block
12:09	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	ACEGBDFH Period 3
12:09 1:00	LUNCH BREAK	LUNCH BREAK	LUNCH BREAK	LUNCH BREAK	LUNCH BREAK
Warning 1:00 1:03	E	F	F	G	F
2:09	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4
Warning 2:14 2:17	G	H	G	E	H
3:23	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5
<u>Courses</u> Work Exp. Jazz Dance Instrumental Jazz Special Projects	I	I	I	I	I
	Period 6	Period 6	Period 6	Period 6	Period 6

YOUR 2009 – 2010 INDIVIDUAL TIMETABLE

The following pages will provide you with additional information related to your high school program. As well, you may wish to review the registration procedures in the 2009-10 registration handbook to clarify any items that are not included in the information that follows. **Please review the attached timetable to check for required courses and to check that both semesters have a similar difficulty level. If you are moving, please let us know as soon as possible.**

Course Assignments and Changes from Pre-registration

We have made every effort to give students all courses that were requested during the May pre-registration sessions. However, in some cases the course requests made by students were impossible to timetable. In these cases we have attempted to use the alternative courses that were selected by students on the pre-registration form. Where these courses will not timetable we have selected courses that are similar in nature or consistent with the student's program.

School Initiated Changes to Individual Timetables

In some cases students have requested courses for which they do not have proper prerequisite requirements as established by Alberta Education. In these cases we have redesigned the student's timetable so that it meets all compulsory requirements. We have also reviewed the grade 11 and 12 timetables with respect to Semester 2, 2008 - 09 course failures. Where students have failed key courses within their program we have made the necessary changes.

Student and Parent Requests for Changes

The school will be open on **August 24 and 25** for students who would like to discuss a timetable change. If you require changes to your timetable our counsellors and admin staff will be available to assist you on these two days.

The school will be open in late August to assist students with registration on the following basis:

- **9:00 - 12:00 a.m. Monday, August 24 - Grade 12 timetable changes.**
- **1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Monday, August 24 - Grade 11 timetable changes.**
- **9:00 - 12:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 25 - Grade 10 timetable changes.**
- **1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 25 - Late registrations and new student registration.**

**** Note: Grade 10's coming for timetable changes will be expected to bring their final Grade 9 Report Cards.**

NOTE:

ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE ANOTHER COPY OF THEIR TIMETABLE THAT SHOWS ACCURATE LOCKER NUMBER AND COMBINATION, AND A MAP THAT SHOWS THE ROOM NUMBERS.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR 2009 – 2010 SCHOOL YEAR

- **FOR GRADE 10 STUDENTS**
The 2009-2010 school term starts for Grade 10 students on Monday, August 31, 2009 at 8: 29 in the morning. The morning is set aside for Grade 10 students only as an orientation to the High School. **This is a full day for GRADE 10 STUDENTS.** There are tours and activities planned for them so they are able to make an easier transition to our school.
- **FOR ALL OTHER STUDENTS**
The school year for all other students begins on **Monday, August 31, 2009 at 1:00 pm.**

TEXTBOOK RETURNS

Please check with your child to ensure that all textbooks and school property were returned before the end of June. If this did not occur, a bill will be issued for the cost of replacement of the material in question. If you still have material to return, you can return it to the Grasslands Public School office or to Brooks Composite High School at the end of August. If you have outstanding fees, please make

immediate arrangements to pay these before the start of the new school year.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR HIGH SCHOOL

Graphing calculators are required in most math classes. However, these are **not available for purchase either through the school or the board office.** You should be able to find these at Walmart or Staples. The cost is approximately \$140. Students should also come the first day with **loose-leaf paper, binders, pens, and pencils.** **PE students will require gym strip.** Supplies specific to each course will be given to students the first day of class by the teacher.

THE SCHOOL AGENDA

As many of you are aware from previous information sent home, the school agenda, which is a handbook and personal organizational tool for students, will be given to students in early September. This publication is designed to encourage optimum student learning. It helps remind students to be organized, consistent, and to use their time more effectively for the benefit of their academic and social activities. Although teachers and administrators will be working to help students with respect to the use of this tool, we are only part of the equation. **As parents, it is imperative that you play an important part in the school agenda process.**

AUGUST WRITING TIMES FOR DIPLOMA EXAMS

If your son or daughter has received a diploma exam mark that is lower than needed or expected there are a couple of options available.

First, you can request a re-score. To do this, please call the school board office at 403-793-6700 and arrange to complete an Exam re-score form. **The deadline for a re-score of any June exam is August 4, 2009.** A fee of \$26.25 is payable to the Minister of Finance to have any exam re-scored. Please note that the re-score mark is considered the final mark for that exam whether the mark is lowered, raised or remains the same. The re-score fee is fully refunded if the mark increases by 5% or more as a result of the re-score.

Secondly, students can re-write any diploma exam at a cost of \$26.25 per exam. Please make the cheque payable to the Minister of Finance. If choosing this option, please note the August Exam schedule as follows:

All summer diploma exams will be written at Sunrise School.

August Diploma Exam Schedule

AUGUST 2009— All		
Wednesday, August 5	9:00 – 11:30 A.M.	English 30–1 Part A English 30–2 Part A
	1:00 – 3:30 P.M.	English 30–1 Part B English 30–2 Part B
Thursday, August 6	9:00 – 11:00 A.M.	Social Studies 30 Part(ie) A Social Studies 33 Part(ie) A
	1:00 – 3:00 P.M.	Social Studies 30 Part(ie) B Social Studies 33 Part(ie) B
Friday, August 7	9:00 – 10:00 A.M.	Chemistry 30 Part(ie) A
	1:00 – 3:00 P.M.	Chemistry 30 Part(ie) B
Monday, August 10	9:00 – 10:00 A.M.	Pure Math 30 Part(ie) A Applied Math 30 Part(ie) A
	1:00 – 3:00 P.M.	Pure Math 30 Part(ie) B Applied Math 30 Part(ie) B
August 11 Tuesday,	9:00 – 10:00 A.M.	Biology 30 Part(ie) A
	1:00 – 3:00 P.M.	Biology 30 Part(ie) B
Wednesday, August 12	9:00 – 10:00 A.M.	Physics 30 Part(ie) A
	1:00 – 3:00 P.M.	Physics 30 Part(ie) B
Thursday, August 13	9:00 – 10:00 A.M.	Science 30 Part A
	1:00 – 3:00 P.M.	Science 30 Part B

Students are permitted an additional one-half hour to complete their exams

SERVICES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS

Learning Strategies classes

In some cases we have placed students in a class called **Learning Strategies**. These classes are designed to assist students with a semester load that we feel will be heavy for them. Your Learning Strategies teacher will outline on the first day of classes the manner in which this course will fit into

your timetable. Students involved in Learning Strategies will be eligible for credits based on the evaluation process described in the course outline.

The Career Counsellor

A Career Counsellor will be available to all students at Brooks Composite High School. BCHS is pleased to provide Career Counselling services that will operate in conjunction with our existing academic and personal counselling services. Along with regular office hours, this person will provide students with both individual and group information specific to the student's interest. It is anticipated that over their high school career, students will be able to explore and build a high school program, which will provide them with the best opportunities when they graduate.

Tutorial Assistance Available to all BCHS students.

At BCHS we recognize that some students will require extra help. All our teachers are available before and after school to provide assistance. Please encourage your student to take advantage of the extra help that is readily available.

BCHS. Exchange with Hiroo, Japan continues.

BCHS has had the opportunity to host several delegations from **Hiroo High School in Hokkaido, Japan** over the past several years. Hiroo High will once again be sending a delegation of four students and one teacher to BCHS in September for a two-week visit to our school and community. We are still looking for host families. For more information on housing the students, please contact Mr. Jensen at the school.

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

- If a student's absence from class or school is excusable, the **parents/guardians** are expected to call and inform the school by 9:00 a.m. the day of the absence.
- If a student is leaving school during the day, the student must have parent permission. The student must then sign out at the office prior to leaving. These will be recorded in the sign out book for information to teachers. If a parent does not call in, an automated phone system will call your home to inform you of the absence and to request a reply from you to explain the absence. The phone system will make you

aware of any absences that have **NOT** been accounted for. You are requested to call the school the following day to confirm the absence. Inexcusable absences will be dealt with by the Vice- Principal.

- A student who is absent on the day of a test or an "in-class" assignment is still responsible to arrange, with the teacher, an appropriate time to complete the assignment or evaluation. Students must notify teachers as far ahead as possible of any known absence. As well, students should arrange to complete all work covered during an absence.

SPORTS BEGINNING IN THE FALL

As most of you know the football and volleyball seasons will be starting right away in the fall. In fact, some of the tryouts will actually be held prior to the beginning of the school year.

FOOTBALL

Practices will begin on the field at BCHS starting on **Monday, August 18, 2009** from 6:00 to 8:00 each weeknight and will run each week night until the beginning of school. The Buffalos will be playing their first game on Saturday, Aug 23.

VOLLEYBALL

Mr. Bellamy has asked that we remind all students interested in trying out for the **Sr. Girls Volleyball** team that there will be an open gym from 1:30 to 3:00 on Thursday August 27th through to Friday August 28th at the BCHS Gym.

Mr. Nelson would like to remind any boys interested in playing on the **Sr. Boys** team that he will be holding tryouts beginning on **August 31**(the first day of school).

ACADEMIC AWARDS NIGHT

The academic awards ceremonies for the 2008 – 2009 school year will take place on the evening of **October 9, 2009**. More information will appear in our September NEWSLETTER. Parents and award recipients will receive written invitations. This event is open to all students and parents.

Note - This is an important and prestigious event to honor academic success in a variety of curricular areas at all grade levels and to award over \$75,000 worth of local and provincial scholarships.

STAFF CHANGES FOR 2009 – 2010

Special Ed – Ms. Tanya Ginet

Tanya is originally from Brooks. After high school, she completed degrees in Fine Arts and Education. Tanya has a huge interest in the performing arts and will also be teaching drama this year.

SAC MEETING

Please note **Wednesday, September 9, 2009 (7:00 p.m.)** as an important meeting date for parents of B.C.H.S. students. The purpose of the meeting will include a chance to meet B.C.H.S. staff, including those new to our school. You can also meet your child's teachers and ask any questions you may have about your child's timetable or program.

Another purpose of this meeting is to elect a new School Council, and to offer a school tour for interested parents. We find that the students whose parents maintain active involvement with the school and their child's education tend to have a better school experience.

GENERAL MEETING FOR PARENTS OF ALL B.C.H.S. STUDENTS

**Wednesday, September 9, 2009
7:00 p.m.
At B.C.H.S. Cafeteria**

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:

1. Meet BCHS staff
2. Discuss your child's program and/or timetable
3. Learn more about the opportunity for parent involvement in Site Based Management (SBM).
4. Establishment of the B.C.H.S. School Advisory Council For 2009-2010.
5. Tour the School

COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

Brooks Composite High School Commencement Participation Criteria May 29, 2010

Participation in the **Commencement Program** in May will be based on the following criteria:

- a. The student is registered in a program leading to one of the following:
 - i) An Alberta High School Diploma
 - ii) An Alberta High School Certificate of Achievement
 - iii) A three-year non-credit Certificate program in Special Education leading to a local school-leaving certificate
- b. The student must be eligible to complete all of the requirements of **one of the above** programs by **June 30 of the current school year.**
- c. Students using Distance Learning courses as part of their program requirements **must have 2/3 of their lessons completed and graded satisfactorily prior to inclusion on the final commencement list.**
- d. Judgement for inclusion on the **first draft** of the commencement list will be made on the basis of Final Semester 1 marks and 1st Report Card marks for second semester subjects. **Students who are failing Second Semester courses which are necessary for the criteria described in a) above, or who have not completed 2/3 of their required distance learning lessons satisfactorily, will receive a written warning (with a copy sent to parents) following the first report card marks indicating that they may not be included in the commencement program.** If these courses are not improved to a passing level by the 2nd report card, the student will not be included on the final commencement list.
- e. Judgement for inclusion on the **final** commencement list will be made on the basis of the Final Semester 1 marks and the **2nd report card marks** for the second semester subjects. Students who are failing second semester courses which are necessary for the criteria described in a) above, or who have not completed 2/3 of their required distance learning satisfactorily will not be included in the final commencement list. **Students who were passing subjects required to meet the criteria listed in a) above at the time of the first report card but are failing those subjects at the time of the 2nd report card will not be included in the final commencement list.**
- f. **Students must be in good standing with the**

school. Students who are under suspension from school, or who are not extending reasonable efforts on their academic progress will not be permitted to participate in the program.

Any student not on the **first** Draft of the commencement list, and feels that there are some extenuating circumstances which should be considered, may appeal in writing prior to April 1, 2010 to the principal. **Students who have no extenuating circumstances are unlikely to have a successful appeal.** The Commencement Appeal Committee will hand down a binding decision by May 4, 2010. Appeals will not be accepted following the determination of the final commencement list.

TEXTBOOK RENTAL AND STUDENT FEE STRUCTURE

Textbook and student fees were up-dated by the School Board. There were no changes for high schools. It is worth noting that fees in Brooks are generally **much** lower than what seems to be normal for high school students across the province. **See attached fee sheets.**

IN CASES WHERE FEES ARE NOT PAID BY THE END OF THE YEAR, THE UNPAID ACCOUNT WILL BE SENT TO GRASSLANDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR COLLECTION PURPOSES. GRADE 12 STUDENTS WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO TAKE PART IN COMMENCEMENT IF ALL THEIR FEES ARE UP TO DATE.

OUR THANKS

There are many people and businesses who support our school. I would like to take the opportunity to thank **Lutes Lumber** for their support of the athletic programs at BCHS and for sponsoring our radio feature "The Buffalo Report". prepared and read the report highlighting the events at BCHS. Thanks for your work. The radio station told us they loved working with you.



Also, thank you to Smith Trucking for all their help, particularly with Graduation preparation. Once again, your help was greatly appreciated.

There are many others who deserve recognition and we will continue to highlight our many partners in upcoming editions.

**BROOKS COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL FEES
2009-2010**

Fees can be paid in advance at the office on August 24 or 25, 2009 or brought to school on the first day August 31, 2009.

Below is a list of fees that you can use to calculate your total fee. Bring the completed fee sheet with a cheque attached (payable to Grasslands Public Schools) attached to pay your fees on the first day. You will then be given a timetable with locker combination, and a receipt will be given the following day. If bringing cash, pay and ask for a receipt right away. **(When calculating fees - include both semesters.)**

FEES ARE:

Textbook /Course fee: \$16.00 per course to a maximum of \$80.00	\$80.00
Basic Fee / Agenda Book	\$7.00
Yearbook: (entitles the student to a Yearbook)	\$35.00
Student Union Fee (activities and Student Card)	\$25.00
Locker rental:	<u>\$ 2.00</u>
TOTAL FEE:	\$149.00

OTHER INDIVIDUAL COURSE FEES:**3 CREDIT****5 CREDIT**

Food Studies	\$18.00 (1A, 2A)	\$30.00 (1, 2 or 3C)
Cosmetology	\$10.00 (1A)	\$15.00 (1, 2 or 3 C or H)
Mechanics	\$10.00 (1A)	\$15.00 (1, 2 or 3 C or H)
Construction Technology	\$10.00 (1A)	\$15.00 (1, 2 or 3 C or H)
Communications Technology	\$10.00 (2A)	\$15.00 (2C)
Physical Education	\$15.00 (10)	\$30.00 (10, 20, 30)
Jazz Dance		\$120.00 (1, 2 or 3 C)
Green Certificate		\$1048.60
P.F.O. (Production Field Operation)	Fee currently under review	

Each PE student will receive a module sheet with fees the first day of PE class. Students will pick the modules they want to do, get the sheet signed by a parent/guardian and return the sheet with the fees to the office.

P. Ed. 10 - 20 - 30**Module costs (modules and cost subject to change)****3 CREDIT****5 CREDIT**

Golf	\$30.00	\$30.00
Alpine Activity	\$350.00	\$350.00
Aquatics	\$25.00	\$25.00
Scuba Diving	\$25.00	\$25.00

Note: As well, there are a few modules that require extra fees and fees are charged on a cost recovery basis.

**BCHS FEE SHEET
2009 – 2010 School Term**

STUDENT NAME: _____ **GRADE** _____ **DATE** _____
(Please Print Legibly)

FEES (includes both semesters)	<u>Amount</u>	=	<u>Total</u>
Basic Fee / Agenda Book	<u>\$7.00</u>	=	<u>\$7.00</u>
Textbook / Course Fee (\$16.00 per course to a maximum of \$80.00) _____ x	<u>\$16.00</u>	=	_____
Student Union (includes activities and student card)	<u>\$25.00</u>	=	<u>\$25.00</u>
Locker Rental	<u>\$2.00</u>	=	<u>\$2.00</u>
Yearbook (optional purchase – entitles student to a yearbook)	<u>\$35.00</u>	=	_____

OPTION FEES	<u>3 Credit Course</u>	<u>5 Credit Course</u>		=	
Food Studies	\$18.00 ea. (1A, 2A)	\$30.00 ea. (1, 2, 3C)	_____	=	_____
Cosmetology	\$10.00 ea. (1A)	\$15.00 ea. (1, 2, 3 C/H)	_____	=	_____
Mechanics	\$10.00 ea. (1A).	\$15.00 ea (1, 2, 3 C/H)	_____	=	_____
Construction Technology	\$10.00 ea. (1A)	\$15.00 ea. (1, 2, 3 C/H)	_____	=	_____
Jazz Dance		\$120.00 (1, 2, 3 C)	_____	=	_____
Communications Technology	\$10.00 (2A)	\$15.00 (2C)	_____	=	_____
P.E. Physical Education	\$15.00 (10)	\$30.00 (10, 20, 30)	_____	=	_____
Green Certificate			<u>\$1048.60</u>	=	_____
P.F.O. (Production Field Operator) Fee currently under review			_____	=	_____
TOTAL FEES			=		\$_____

IF PAYING BY CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER PLEASE MAKE PAYABLE TO GRASSLANDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Physical Ed: There may be a charge depending upon module selections, which must be paid prior to participation in each activity. Students will receive a module sheet in their class to be completed and signed by a parent/guardian and returned with the payment.

Art: There will be a charge for materials used that is to be paid before beginning projects.

Construction Technologies: There will be a charge for materials used in construction projects.

Mechanics: There will be a charge for any work done on vehicles. Extensive work must be paid as the work is done, small jobs when the work is completed.

**Return this sheet with payment attached
the first day of school August 31, 2009**