

Northside Independent School District

Brennan High School
2400 Cottonwood Way
San Antonio TX, 78253

Phone: 210-398-1250
Fax: 210-645-3311



THE BRENNAN BUZZ

Brennan High School
Est. 2010

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Gerardo Marquez
Principal

John Trimble
Vice Principal

Margaret Greff
Academic Dean

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Erika Almendarez

Michelle Craig

Eric Franco

Regina Prewitt-Campbell
Harrison Thrist

Marquez' Marquee



Dear Brennan Community:

It's hard to believe that we are at the half way point of this school year. We can be very proud of the many accomplishments to this point. Our enrollment has grown from 1350 students only six years ago to 2700 this year, yet we continue to be the premier school in the area. Our Advanced Placement program continues to grow with the majority of our students challenging themselves to take these rigorous classes. Our commitment of providing a

"College Going Culture" is only possible if we continue to nurture these demanding classes.

Our schools across the country face the challenges presented by social media. Anyone can anonymously post un-wanted and un-invited rude comments which cause conflict on our campuses. We continue to commit our efforts to keep Brennan HS one of the safest most secure schools in the area. We are blessed to have responsible staff, students and parents that help us monitor this inappropriate behavior. I want to continue to encourage all students and parents to report

any behavior that might endanger anyone at our campus.

Our Fine Arts, Academics, and Athletic programs continue to flourish in their competitions. We continue to retain and recruit some of the finest directors and coaches in the area. We have a great pool of talented students with a great facility to excel in all of our endeavors. GO BEARS.

Very soon we enter the State Testing Season. Our teachers are working hard to prepare everyone for success. The month of May also brings a host of AP Exams. Seniors are now occupied with preparations for

their Prom and shortly after comes Graduation.

Our preparations for next year begin soon with the selection of courses for next year. Be on the lookout for the Course Selection Card to assist your student. We will also be hosting next year's Freshman Class with exciting visits to our campus.

It's an exciting time to be a Brennan Bear!

FROM THE DESK OF THE ACADEMIC DEAN.....

Parents,

Please use this newsletter as a resource for scheduling appointments for your child during the second semester.

Dual Credit allows students to earn college credit from Northwest Vista College while enrolled in High School. Currently, students are applying for Dual Credit classes. The first step is to complete the Apply Texas application by **February 12, 2016**. After successfully applying, students will need to take the TSI (Texas Success Initiative). Students are required to score at levels set by Northwest Vista College. The cost of the TSI is **\$10.00**. Students may retest if necessary for an additional cost of \$10.00 for each retest.

If students need help with the APPLY TEXAS, Mr. Lazo will be in the Computer Lab during 4th and 6th period lunches to assist. They may also go by Room D200AC for additional help. The TSI will be given on the following dates: **January 30, February 20 and 27, March 5 and April 9 and 16**. Additional days may be added if necessary. Additional Dual Credit information is available on the Brennan website at <http://www.nisd.net/brennan> under Department/Dual Credit. For more information, please contact Mr. Lazo, Dual Credit Liaison, at Javier.Lazo@nisd.net.

TELPAS—TELPAS is an assessment program for students in Texas public school who are learning the English language. TELPAS stands for the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System. English language learners are tested annually in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students learning the English language begin participating in TELPAS in kindergarten and stop participating when their language proficiency assessment committee determines that they are proficient in the English language. This year the reading assessment will be given online during late March/early April.

(continued on Back Page)



January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 	2
3	4 School Resumes	5	6 Late Start	7	8	9
10	11 Exams 4th/6th Part I	12 Exams 4th/6th Part II	13 Half Day Exams 1st/2nd	14 Half Day Exams 3rd/5th	15 Half Day Exams 7th/8th End of 1st Semester	16
17	18 HOLIDAY	19	20	21	22 Report Cards Distributed	23 SAT Credit Retrieval 8-12 Room E125
24	25	26 PTSA General Assembly Meeting LGI 6:30 p.m.	27 Late Start	28	29	30 TSI Testing C132 Credit Retrieval 8-12 Room E125

February

31	1	2	3	4 Middle School Visit LUNA	5 Middle School Visit BERNAL, BRISCOE & ZACHARY	6 ACT
7	8 Progress Reports	9	10 Late Start	11	12 Deadline for Apply Texas (Dual Credit)	13
14 	15 Teacher In-service/ Student Holiday	16	17 Middle School En- dorsements Meeting & Electives Fair (Incoming 9th graders)	18	19	20 TSI Testing C132 Credit Retrieval 8-12 Room E125
21	22	23	24 Late Start Counselors visit Luna Middle School	25 Counselors visit Bernal Middle School	26 End of 4th Six Weeks	27 TSI Testing C132 Credit Retrieval 8-12 Room E125

March

28	29	1	2	3	4 Dual Credit Eligibility Date Report Cards Distributed	5 SAT TSI Testing C132 Credit Retrieval 8-12 Room E125
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 	14	15	Spring Break		18	19
20	21	22 PTSA General Assembly Meeting LGI 6:30 p.m.	23 Late Start AP Breakfast	24	25 HOLIDAY	26
27	28 Progress Reports	29 English I EOC	30	31 English II EOC		

Be sure to visit <http://nisd.net/brennan/> for news and updates.

April





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 ACT TSI Testing C132 Credit Retrieval 8-12 Room E125
10	11	12 SAT for All Juniors @ Brennan	13	14	15	16 TSI Testing C132 Credit Retrieval 8-12 Room E125
17	18 Deadline for TSI (must have taken the test)	19	20 Late Start	21 End of 5th Six Weeks	22 HOLIDAY	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Report Cards Distributed	30 PROM

May

1	2 Algebra I EOC AP Exams AM— Chem, Env Sci AP Exams PM— Psychology	3 AP Exams AM— Comp Sci A Spanish Language AP Exams PM— Art History Physics 1	4 US History EOC AP Exams AM— English Lit (12) AP Exams PM— Physics 2	5 Biology EOC AP Exams AM— Calculus AB Calculus BC	6 AP Exams AM— US History (11) German Language Studio Art Due	7 SAT TSI Testing C132 Credit Retrieval 8-12 Room E125
8	9 AP Exams AM— Biology Music Theory AP Exams PM— Physics C	10 AP Exams AM— US Gov't AP Exams PM— Spanish Literature	11 AP Exams AM— English Lang (11) AP Exams PM— Macroeconomics	12 Bear Awards AP Exams AM— World History (10) AP Exams PM— Statistics	13 AP Exams AM— Latin	14 TSI Testing C132 Credit Retrieval 8-12 Room E125
15	16	17	18 Late Start	19	20	21 TSI Testing C132 Credit Retrieval 8-12 Room E125
22	23	24 PTSA General Assembly Meeting LGI 6:30 p.m.	25 Sports Awards	26 Exams 4th/6th Part I	27 Exams 4th/6th Part II	28

June

29	30 HOLIDAY 	31 Half Day Exams 1st/2nd	1 Half Day Exams 3rd/5th	2 Half Day Exams 7th/8th	3 Teacher Workday	4 SAT
5	6	7	8  Graduation 7 p.m. Alamodome	9	10 Deadline for TSI Re-testing	11
12	13 Accelerated Instruction	14 Accelerated Instruction	15 Accelerated Instruction	16 Accelerated Instruction	17	18
19	20 Accelerated Instruction	21 Accelerated Instruction	22 Accelerated Instruction	23 Accelerated Instruction	24	25
26	27 Accelerated Instruction	28 Accelerated Instruction	29 Accelerated Instruction	30 Accelerated Instruction		



Guidance & Counseling Department

Counseling Staff

Elizabeth Ramos, Head Counselor

Terry Gray, A-Cr

Michelle Flores, Cu-Ham

Alan Alanis, Han-Hw & L-Na

Desiree Smith, IJK & As Assigned

Mary Cervantes, Ne-Sa

Michelle Rodriguez, Sc-Z

The Guidance & Counseling Department consists of four components:

Guidance Curriculum (classroom presentations on goal-setting, guidance and counseling cyber bullying, healthy relationships, etc.),

Responsive Services (individualized attention/small groups),

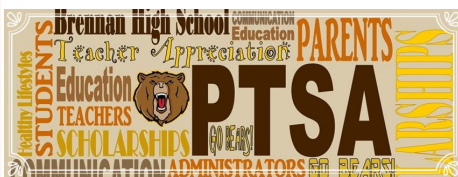
Individual Planning (graduation requirements, career/college exploration, etc.) and

System Support (school/community resources).



Parent Connection is a program that allows you to view your student's grades and attendance in a real-time atmosphere. You can view your student's daily grades and attendance for the current year, as well as his or her academic history including his or her standardized test results. **More importantly,**

you can set triggers to alert your cell phone or email regarding your student's academic progress and attendance. Simply create an account and add all of your children to it. This online website will also allow you to make payments to your student's cafeteria account which will post in as little as an hour. For more information or to access your student's information, log on to Parent Connection from www.nisd.net.



Upcoming Meetings—6:30 p.m. LGI

January 26th—FAFSA Information

March 22nd—Dollars and Sense

May 24th—Scholarships & Elections

(continued from Front Page)

SAT—All Brennan HS juniors will have the opportunity to take the college entrance SAT exam on campus—**at no cost to the students and parents.** The SAT will be administered to the student during the school day and proctored by NISD teachers. Kahn Academy now offers a free SAT preparation for the SAT. All juniors should visit Khan Academy to utilize these free tutorials and prepare for the test. Juniors have already created a College Board account when they received their PSAT results. The SAT will be administered to all juniors on **Tuesday, April 12.** The test is 5 hours and students should finish after 2:15 p.m. during 7th Period. Students will register for the April 12 SAT School Day test at school in February.

EOC (End of Course Exams) - Students who entered the ninth grade in the 2011-2012 school year or later must pass five STAAR end-of-course tests to graduate from a Texas public high school.

Those five end-of-course tests are:

9th Grade:	English I—March 29
	Algebra I—May 2
	Biology—May 5
10th Grade:	English II—March 31
11th Grade:	US History—May 4

End of Course exams are given to all students enrolled in the tested courses as well as students who need to retest.

Summer Accelerated Instruction Program & EOC Exams—Students who are not successful on the March and/or May EOC will be asked to attend an Accelerated Instruction Program in June. Students will receive instruction in one or more specific subjects to help them pass the EOC exams. Accelerated Instruction will begin June 13th and run through July 7th. There is no instruction on Fridays or on July 4th.

The test dates for the summer EOC are:

9th Grade:	English I—July 11
	Algebra I—July 12
	Biology—July 14
10th Grade:	English II—July 13
11th Grade:	US History—July 15

The next available opportunity for retesting is the first week in December 2016.

Advanced Placement Exams—The Advanced Placement program gives students the opportunity to challenge themselves by pursuing college-level studies—with the opportunity to earn college credit, advanced placement or both—while still in high school. AP Exams are given in May. If a student receives a score of 3, 4, or 5 on the exam, they may receive college credit.

The annual AP Breakfast and Registration for exams will be held on **March 23 from 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM.** To save time on Exam Days, students will complete a pre-registration for the AP Exams on **April 18th.**

The **AP Exams will be given May 2-13.** The exams are approximately 4 hours in length and are scheduled for both morning and afternoon sessions. Please check the calendar for specific test dates and time.

Margaret Greff
Academic Dean