



Tucson Unified School District  
**Augustus Brichta Elementary School**

2110 W. Brichta  
 Tucson, AZ 85745  
 (520) 225-1100/Fax: (520) 225-1101  
<http://www.brichtabears.com>

**September 2010**

**Principal's Letter**

Dear Families of Brichta Students,  
 Thank you for helping us to have such a successful beginning to our school year!  
 We are excited to once again be able to offer after school classes through our 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) grant. In order to meet the needs of our students and fulfill the requirements of our grant, targeted students will be given priority in these classes. There will be a limited number of slots available for each club. Bus service will be available at 4:00 to take students who regularly ride the bus home.  
 Adult classes and opportunities for families will begin soon. Cathy DeJonghe, the leader of our Toddler-Parent Learning Time last year, has told us that she will not be able to lead our group this year. We are currently looking for a person to fill this position. Please check our website, marquee and newsletter for more information. We are committed to making our school a center of learning for all of our community members!  
 As always, we appreciate your support. Together, we are accomplishing worthy, lofty goals!  
 Sincerely,

Sabrina Cruz, Principal  
[Sabrina.Cruz@tusd1.org](mailto:Sabrina.Cruz@tusd1.org)



**We're happy you are here!**  
 Our campus is a closed campus. All visitors to Brichta **MUST** sign in at the office and wear a "Visitor" or "Volunteer" badge. No one is allowed to enter in through any door but the front door. This is a TUSD Governing Board Policy and is meant to ensure the safety of our students. We appreciate your cooperation!

**Help send our 5<sup>th</sup> graders to FLY!**  
**Brichta 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Car Wash**  
**Saturday, September 25th**  
**8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
**Brichta Elementary South Parking Lot**  
 Suggested Donation: \$5.00 – Cars and \$7.00 – Trucks, SUV's & Large Vans  
 Bake Sale (Donations welcome!).



**Brichta Calendar of Events**

<b>Tues., 9/21</b>	Star Party 6:30-8:00 Join the fun!
<b>Wed., 9/22</b>	Volunteer Breakfast and Training 8:00 in Parent Room
<b>Sat., 9/25</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade Car Wash</b>
<b>Mon., 9/27</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> CCLC Classes Begin
<b>Thurs., 9/30</b>	<b>Brichta Night at Bianchi's</b>
<b>Fri., 10/1- Fri., 12/10</b>	<b>Open Enrollment Applications accepted. Currently enrolled students do not need to apply</b>
<b>Mon., 9/20 – Wed., 10/20</b>	Brichta Box Tops for Education Contest 
<b>Tues., 10/5</b>	School Pictures 
<b>Sat., Oct. 9th</b>	TUSD Festival of Schools 9:00-1:00 Free admission to the Zoo!

*Welcome to our new school personnel this year!*  
 CCP Teacher ~ Stephanie Escalante  
 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade ELD Long-Term Substitute- Sarah Axup

**ATTENTION BRICHTA FAMILIES**

**Brichta School Procedures**



**Re: PARENT PICK-UP, VANS, BUSES**

We need your help in ensuring that all of our students are safe! The following procedures have been established to keep students safe. Please model respectful behavior and good citizenship by observing these procedures.

**BUSES**

Buses leave 5 minutes after dismissal; please encourage your child to be prompt in getting to the bus bay. Students who miss the bus will need to be picked up by their parents or guardians.



**VAN (Daycare)**

Children have been instructed to go to the vans immediately after dismissal. If your child will not be riding the van on a given day, please notify the school office and the daycare provider.

**PARENT PICK-UP**

Parent pick-up is located at the north end of the school (circular drive near the cafeteria). We ask that all children be picked up in this area.





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**The south parking lot is for daycare vans only! Please do not tell your child to meet you or wait for you in the south parking lot.**

Students should be picked up by 2:25 p.m. unless they are in an after school club. You must come to the office and sign your child out if you arrive after 2:25. In order to devote our attention to students during the day, much of our paperwork and managerial duties are postponed until 2:25. Please help us to keep the school running smoothly by picking your child up on time.

**Reminder- The area in front of the school is designated for school busses. Do not park your vehicles in front of the office doors between 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. or between 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Thank you!**

***Javelinas! Coyotes! Dogs! A Bobcat! These are all animals that we have found roaming around on our playground in the morning. To help us keep your child safe, do not drop him/her off before 7:30 a.m. THERE IS NO SUPERVISION AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS BEFORE 7:30 A.M.***



**Re: CHANGE OF AFTER-SCHOOL PLANS**

If there is a change in plans with regards to how your child will get home, or who will pick up your child, you must provide written documentation or personal communication to school. Please call the school before 12:00 p.m. to ensure that your child knows where they are to go. **For the safety of our students we will not release a child to go home with a person who is not authorized on the green emergency card.**

check in with the office to get a late slip from Patsy.

- When your child arrives at 8:30 a.m. or later, an adult must walk the child in the building and sign the child in. We have several children that are tardy every day. Each time a child enters the classroom late, he or she misses out on part of the learning planned for the day. Please make an effort to get your children to school on time.
- Thank you for your support!



**SNACKS FOR CLASSROOM CELEBRATIONS**

TUSD has established guidelines concerning snacks that can be brought to school for birthdays and other special events. Please see the List of Acceptable Snack Foods in the front office or in the student handbook. If you have any questions, please call the Brichta office.



**CLOTHING BANK**

The Health Office is in need of used clothing for our Brichta students. If your child has outgrown some of their pants, t-shirts, socks, skirts, blouses, belts or shoes, please consider donating them to our school.

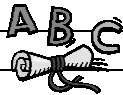


We are especially in need of clothing for our Kinder students (sizes 4, 5 & 6).

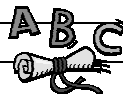
***Thank you for your support!***

***Speaking of clothes.....***

*Although we do not require our students to wear uniforms, we do have a dress code. Students should not wear spaghetti straps or "muscle" shirts. Dresses and shorts should be longer than the length of the student's fingers when their arms are at their sides. For further information on our dress code, please see the Student Handbook.*



**ATTENDANCE = SUCCESS!**



**ABSENCES & TARDIES**

- It is extremely important that you call the school office at 225-1100 when your child will be out to excuse his/her absence. The office will be keeping track of students with excessive unexcused absences.
- Our late bell rings at 7:56 a.m. If your child arrives to school after that time, he/she must

**BRICHTA BEAR STUDENTS**

**FOLLOW THE 3 R'S:**

**Respect Yourself**

**Respect Others**

**Respect Property**

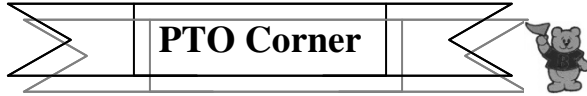




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Welcome back to school! It was nice to meet some of you at Curriculum Night and we look forward to meeting more of you in the weeks to come.

What is the PTO and why come to a meeting? The PTO is you! We are parents who want to be involved and support our children in their school. PTO meetings are a place you can come to share ideas, voice concerns and suggestions. We are currently working hard to plan new and exciting activities to support Brichta and our children. We would love to have your input and ideas.

Please feel free to join us at the next meeting on Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Brichta Library or provide us with your email addresses for updates and reminders.

Welcome back and we look forward to a great year! Sincerely,  
The PTO Board: Jennifer Schroeder, President,  
Stephanie Hamilton, Vice President, Jim Carrasco,  
Treasurer, Deirdre Giampietro, Secretary & Jodi  
Thompson – Marquee

**Please support Brichta Elementary students by:**

- Bringing in Box tops for Education
- Bringing in empty ink cartridges
- Providing a "healthy" snack for classes
- Volunteering in a classroom

**GATE testing**

All parents of enrolled K-5 students will be receiving a postcard in the mail that can be returned postage free if you would like your child evaluated for possible GATE services during the 2011-2012 school year. The deadline for the card to be returned is September 24th. 3rd-5<sup>th</sup> grade GATE testing will take place in November and K-2 testing will take place in January.

**From the Health Office**

Welcome new and returning students and families! Please be sure to fill out and return your child's green emergency card to the Health Office. It is extremely important that we have updated information on all our students. If your child's health history needs to be updated and you have not filled out a new Health Registration form, please do so.



Please do not send your child to school with medicine without coming to the Health Office first. In order to dispense medication to your child, you must complete a form giving the Health Office permission to administer. We are a drug-free campus and keep all medications locked up.

Let's work together in keeping our children healthy this year. Hand washing is very important, not to mention getting a great night's rest! If you have to discuss an issue regarding your child's health, please feel free to call us anytime at 225-1117.

Thank you,  
Michele Bennett, RN  
Cristina Furtado, Health Assistant



**FOOD SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

Brichta Families,

If you qualify for free or reduced-price breakfast and lunch, we need you to complete an application and return it to Brichta by **September 24th**. If possible, please send the application sooner, so that our Food Manager can input the information into the system. Brichta Food Service will begin charging students for their lunch if their application has not been returned by September 24th. Breakfast is \$1.25 and lunch is \$1.75.

Please send lunch money with your child at the beginning of the week. Send the money in an envelope with your child's name printed on the front. The teacher will send the money to the cafeteria. Children that forget their money will be given 2 credits (2 days) for lunch. If the child does not pay on the third day, he/she will be given a peanut butter sandwich. We would like for your child to have a positive experience and your support is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please free to call us at 225-1123.

Thank you,  
Brichta Food Service Staff

***For Your Information***

***Child Custody***

In most cases when parents are divorced, both mother and father continue to have equal rights where their children are concerned. **If you have a court order limiting the custody or visitation rights of one parent, please bring a copy to the school office.** Unless the court order is on file in our office, we must provide equal rights to both parents.



**TUSD**  
*Celebrate the US!*

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**Legal Name**

Your child may be referred to by any name you choose. However, registration papers, progress reports, testing materials, health information, etc., must contain the child's legal name as recorded on the birth certificate. If the student's name has been changed through adoption or a court order, a copy of the legal document must be on file in the school office prior to records reflecting that change.

**Around Our School**

Mrs. Hill's Heavenly Stars' first and second graders have started the year by focusing on community building. We are learning about the different communities that we are a part of and how we are connected to our world. We are learning that we are an important part of our classroom community. In science, the first graders have observed and recorded in their science notebooks the growth of our Brasicca seeds from a sprout, to leaves, to buds, to small yellow flowers. The second graders are reading chapter books and learning strategies for comprehension.

Dr. McNiece's 2nd graders are excited about studying mealworms in science! They have begun learning about life cycles, metamorphosis, and the things that all living things need in order to survive.

The third grades have been learning about different types of maps and have also been constructing their own maps! They can identify symbols, legends, map keys and compass rose. The students can also name the 7 continents and the 4 oceans. Did you know that Africa has over 50 countries?

***From the Student and Family Support Liaison***



Welcome to another great school year at Brichta! I'm very excited about my new position as Student and Family Support Liaison. I'm in the process of setting up a webpage that will include an abundance of resources for families to access.

Along with volunteer training information, I've included a portion of an article regarding the benefits of eating together as a family. I've also included the link so that you to have the opportunity to read the entire article.

**The Benefits of Eating Together**

**The Family Who Eats Together Stays Together**

-- By Becky Hand, Licensed & Registered Dietician

**Reason #4: Nourish**

Meals prepared and eaten at home are usually more nutritious and healthy. They contain more fruits, vegetables, and dairy products along with additional nutrients such as fiber, calcium, vitamins A and C, and folate. Home cooked meals are usually not fried or highly salted, plus soda and sweetened beverage consumption is usually lower at the dinner table.

**Reason #7: Improve Grades**

Children do better in school when they eat more meals with their parents and family. Teenagers who eat dinner four or more times per week with their families have higher academic performance compared with teenagers who eat with their families two or fewer times per week. [http://www.sparkpeople.com/resource/nutrition\\_articles.asp?id=439](http://www.sparkpeople.com/resource/nutrition_articles.asp?id=439)

**Volunteer Training**

Can you spare 30 minutes? 1 hour? 1 day a week? We need volunteers to assist in the office, library and classrooms. Please join us for fun, food and training at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

*Special Thanks to our Volunteers of the Month:  
Irene Peterson, Jane Simpson and Becky Peralta*

Sincerely,  
Rhonda Smith

**CROSS COUNTRY HAS BEGUN**

**Our students will be participating in Cross Country Meets on the following dates:**

- Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> @ Reid Park**
- Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> @ Himmel Park**
- Oct 18<sup>th</sup> Location to be announced**
- Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> @ Himmel Park**

**Please come out to show your support for our students and our program!**

TUSD Governing Board:

Bruce Burke, Judy Burns, Adelita Grijalva, Joel Ireland, Alex Rodriguez  
Tucson Unified School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in educational programs or activities.



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