

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Principal:	Julie Phelps (Gr. 6)	203-245-6400
Asst. Principal:	Kathryn Hart (Gr. 5)	203-245-6400
Health Office:	Valerie Alberti	203-245-6407
School Counselor:	Michelle Catucci (Gr. 6)	203-245-6421
	Eliza Hayes (Gr. 5)	203-245-6421
Special Education Coordinator:	CJ Gladstone	203-245-6419

Main Office:	203-245-6400
Attendance Office:	203-245-6405
Attendance Hotline:	203-245-6404
Fax Line:	203-245-6425

PTO EXECUTIVE BOARD

Co-Presidents:	TBD
Co-Vice Presidents:	TBD
Secretary:	TBD
Treasurer:	TBD

www.brownmiddleschool.org

www.madison.k12.ct.us



Brown Middle School Madison, CT

Presents

Grade 5 Parent Guide

2011-2012

www.brownmiddleschool.org

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide a middle school educational experience where high academic standards challenge all students to reach their full potential as life-long learners and creative problem solvers. With a collaborative effort among school, family, and community, we will expect increased independence and hold students accountable to models of behavior that encourage core values promoting empathy and responsibility. Our purpose will be achieved by fostering mutual respect in a safe environment where the arts and sciences unite to produce young people of strong, compassionate character capable of success in a diverse world.

Class Enrollment/Grouping Process

The 2011-2012 grade 5 class has an enrollment of 249 students. Teams are heterogeneously balanced, with consideration given to student performance, gender, learning/teaching style, peer relationships and behavioral patterns.

Grade 5 2011—2012 Daily Schedule

Grade 5			
HR	8:05	8:10	Homeroom
1	8:12	9:05	Core
2	9:07	10:00	Core
3	10:02	10:42	Related Arts
4	10:44	11:04	PEP/Core Study
5	11:04	11:29	Lunch
6	11:31	12:14	Related Arts
7	12:16	1:09	Core
8	1:11	1:51	Related Arts
9	1:53	2:50	Core

SAMPLE Student Schedule 2011-2012

	A Day	B Day	C Day	D Day	E Day	F Day
HR	Home-room	Home-room	Home-room	Home-room	Home-room	Home-room
1	LA	Science	LA	Science	LA	Science
2	Social Studies	Math	Social Studies	Math	Social Studies	Math
3	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish
4	Core Study	PEP	Core Study	PEP	Core Study	PEP
5	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
6	Band	Study Hall	Band	Study Hall	Band	Study Hall
7	Science	LA	Science	LA	Science	LA
8	PE	Art	PE	Art	PE	Art
9	Math	Social Studies	Math	Social Studies	Math	Social Studies

DRESS CODE

Our goal is to create an environment that is conducive to learning and does not present students with distractions. It is also important from a developmental stance that students understand that *part* of showing self-respect is how we present to others; ten and eleven year old young adults may need adult direction in defining themselves in a way that does not interfere with their purpose at school or with how they want to begin to define themselves to their peers and teachers.

Girls should be able to move comfortably in school in shorts, shirts, and skirts – this movement includes reaching, raising hands, and bending down to get materials out of the locker. Shirts should cover the torso and stomach, and bra straps should not be visible.

For boys and girls, pants or shorts should cover all underwear. Also, shirts should not be imprinted with graphics or text that relates to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or offensive slogans or sayings.

We realize that it can be difficult to shop for school appropriate clothing given what is on display at many department stores, but sometimes just adding a layer, under or over, to what is currently being sold can make it appropriate for school.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Students may possess a cell phone or other electronic communication device, but are not permitted to use them during the instructional day. They may be used on the school bus as long as it does not impact the safe operation of the bus.

VACATIONS

An independent study contract must be completed for each student who will be missing three or more days for a family vacation. Written notification must be sent to the grade level school counselor at least two weeks in advance of the planned vacation. If a student is absent due to illness, teachers will supply assignments. Please call or email the teachers to request missing work. For absences of one or two days, students should call classmates or check teachers' websites to procure the assignments.

Academic Program/Team Structure

Three Trimesters

- Six Day Rotating Schedule, Days A—F



Nine Period Day

- Four 53 minute core classes
- Three 40 minute related arts classes
- One 25 minute lunch period
- One 20 minute PEP/Organization study period

Teaming Design

There are 3 teams: 5-1, 5-2, 5-3. Each team will be composed of:

- 83 students
- 4 core teachers
- 1 special education teacher

Students travel together as a class unit to core subjects (Math, Science, Social Studies, Language Arts).

Students travel independently with other students from other teams to related arts (Spanish, Music, Art, Computer, Health, Theater Arts, Physical Education).



COMMUNICATION

Each team of teachers meets 3 days per week as an interdisciplinary team. This time is used for:

- Parent conferences
- Student discussions
- Coordination of projects and assignments
- Student Support Team (SST)
- Inclusion (special education) planning



Each team meets 1 day per week with the grade level department and coordinator for the purpose of:

- Curriculum review
- Common assessment development
- Curriculum and resource planning
- Data analysis

Parent/Teacher Communication

- Teachers can be reached via email: lastnamefirstinitial@madison.k12.ct.us or by voice mail: (203) 245-6475.
- Progress Reports are available at any time through our online parent portal.
- Report cards are distributed shortly after the end of each trimester.
- Conferences are scheduled, at team or parent request, as needed during team meeting time. (10:02—10:42 a.m.)
- Websites are used by each teacher to post homework, resources, and additional information.
- Most Brown School information is sent to parents by email. Please sign up for **e-Notify**, located on our website under Communication.

LOCKERS

- Individual locker is assigned to each student with built-in lock. All items should be stored in a locked locker.
- Musical instruments are stored in music rooms.
- Backpacks/binders need to fit inside the lockers.



RELATED ARTS

- Physical Education—meets every other day, all year.
- Spanish—meets every day all year.
- Band, Chorus, Orchestra, Theater—all students take one performing art offering. These classes each meet three out of six days, all year.
- Art, Computer, Health—each course meets every other day for one trimester (31 sessions total).

LUNCH

- Free seating after the first month of school.
- All grade 5 students eat at the same time.
- Full lunch and a la carte menu available daily.
- Meal plans can be purchased online.



STUDY HALL

- Each student has one study hall period every other day, for 40 minutes. Study hall can be used for homework, making up tests, studying for tests/quizzes, reading for pleasure, extra support, enrichment, researching, or computer work in the media center.

PEP PERIOD/CORE STUDY

- 20 minutes per day
- One PEP period (Physical Exercise Period) every other day (opposite PE days)
- One core study period every other day with a team teacher.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- Academic and athletic intramurals are available throughout the year. More information is available on the Brown website.
- After school program operated by Madison Beach & Recreation Department from 2:50—6:00 p.m. Call 245-5623 for more info.