

# THE SCORPION SCOOP

Official Brandon Academy News



## From the Head of School

Dear parents, faculty, staff,

Our Back-to-School Orientations and 1-on-1 Zoom meetings provided an opportunity for parents to meet some of their children's teachers and to see for themselves how their days are shaped and filled every day as students learn, work and play together in the age of COVID-19 here at Brandon Academy. I know that my colleagues and I enjoy the chance to showcase the range and depth of learning in each grade level and each subject. Here are the links to the [MS Back-to-School Orientation](#) and [HS Back-to-School Orientation](#) presentations.

All of us went to school at some point in our past and we all may have differing expectations and memories of what good teaching and learning look like. I can tell you that much of the craft of good teaching has not changed a great deal. However the tools available to the teacher, speed of information, technological possibilities, even the capabilities of the children themselves in my estimation, have all changed and increased beyond belief. As I may have said at the Meet & Greet with parents, "What is the role of the teacher in the age of Google?". We are clearly not just conveyors of information. As all the knowledge in the world is now freely available to everyone armed with just a cell phone, the teacher's role becomes much more human and individualized as he or she makes the information accessible, cumulative, sequential, and neatly arranged in bite-sized pieces. The skill of the good teacher becomes much less about instruction and much more about education in the truest sense of the word. I do hope you sensed the excitement and passion of our BA teaching professionals as the new school year begins.

Finally, some parents have been asking me some insightful questions about At-Home Learning. Below are some questions and answers to keep AHL families better informed.

*When can AHL students pick-up their textbooks?*

Students will be able to pick-up textbooks and materials starting on Monday in the Main Office.

*Where can an AHL student find their schedule?*

Class schedules and grades are kept online on the FACTS website (formerly known as RenWeb). Returning BA families already have an account and new families will need to create a free account.

1. Go to [www.brandon-academy.com](http://www.brandon-academy.com) and click on the RenWeb icon located in between the Instagram and email icons, located below on the right far.



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2. Click *Create New Family Portal Account* link.
3. Enter family information. The district code is BD-FL and you will use one of your email addresses given to BA. For students in grades 6-12 will use their BA email.
4. Finally, you will receive an email from RenWeb verifying your account. For here, you will be able to enter your own username and password.

*My child is new to Brandon Academy, how will they get their BA email address?*

Homeroom teachers will include directions on how to sign up for email. Students will use their BA email address for all correspondences with teachers and when using Google Classroom.

*How do I find out when my AHL student is going to Zoom?*

Teachers will email AHL students the necessary class codes and how students will access Google Classroom by 6pm on Sundays. Students new to BA will need to activate their BA email before they are able to access Google Classroom.

*Who should I contact if I have questions regarding FACTS or Google Classroom?*

Please contact Mr. Galzerano ([galzerano@brandon-academy.com](mailto:galzerano@brandon-academy.com)) or Mrs. Wallen ([wallen@brandon-academy.com](mailto:wallen@brandon-academy.com))

Kind regards,

Eric Miles  
Head of School

## Campus News

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### **Extended Care**

#### Before Care (7:00-7:45 am)

Parents will be billed at a rate of \$5 per day. Students should be dropped off at the front gate by the Main Office. Temperatures will be taken before students are permitted to enter campus.

#### After Care (3:30-6:00 pm)

All students who attend after care from 3:30 pm on must have a completed registration form and fee. Parents will be billed at a rate of \$6 per hour. Hourly rate will start at 4pm. Students who are not picked up by 6:00 pm will be charged at a rate of \$1 per minute, payable in cash to the aftercare staff member. Students may be picked up from aftercare on the small playground (PK-2nd graders) or the big playground (Grades 3-8). For additional information, click [here](#).

### **Medication**

If your student needs prescription medication or emergency medications at school, please bring all medications to the Main Office along with a doctor's note explaining when and how much medicine should be given. Please label the medicine bottle with your child's name.

### **Immunization Forms**

A gentle reminder that Immunization Forms need to be completed and turned into the Main Office by Monday, August 24 2020. Students will not be able to participate in athletics and/or field trips if this form is not on file. Students who are starting kindergarten and 7th grade have vaccination boosters due.

### **Additional Useful Links**

[Brandon Academy Website](#)

[2020-2021 Student/ Parent Handbook](#)

[2020 - 2021 BA School Year Calendar](#)

## Athletic News

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### **Volleyball Season**

The First sport this season will be Volleyball. Get ready to have a ton of fun with our coaches starting Monday, August 17th, the first day of school. RSVP to [bland@brandon-academy.com](mailto:bland@brandon-academy.com) if your child will be trying out for the team! Grades 4th through 8th will be trying out from 3:15-4:15. Grades 7th through 12th will be trying out from 4:30-5:30. Coach Bland hopes to see you then!

### **6 on 6 High School Tackle Football**

If you are interested in playing 6 on 6 high school tackle football this year, there is a meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 17 at 3:30. More details will be given then.

GO SCORPIONS!

