



Brooke County Schools Transition Plan

School readiness and transition is a process that prepares students, families, schools, and communities to develop the necessary skills, knowledge and relationships to assist students in successfully moving from one learning setting to another. Brooke County Schools focuses on student transition into school, between grade levels, between schools, and from high school to post-secondary environments.

- ***Our goals include:***
- Establishing relationships
- Promoting academics and learning
- Providing ongoing communication
- Offering support

- ***Specifically, the district focuses on the following transitions:***
- Home environment to PreK
- PreK classroom to Kindergarten / Primary School
- Primary School (Grade 2) to Intermediate School (Grade 3)
- Intermediate School (Grade 4) to Middle School (Grade 5)
- Middle School (Grade 8) to High School (Grade 9)
- High School (Grade 12) to Post-Secondary

- The district transition plan is designed to ensure a smooth school readiness and transition experience by providing the appropriate supports, resources, and information to all students and families. In addition to activities targeted toward the various programmatic levels, ***Brooke County Schools offers the following to all students:***

- ***Student Success and Well-Being:*** District staff coordinate with community agencies, counselors, nurses, and attendance coordinators to ensure all families are aware of the support services available to students; to identify students who need support; and to ensure all students are ready and fully-engaged in learning.
- ***Title I School Parent Involvement Policies:*** Guide Title I schools parent involvement, including school readiness and transition activities
- ***Alternative Learning Options:*** Virtual school options will be available for 6-12 students for those families who request and will be offered through our EdOptions programs. In addition, the district has an Alternative Learning Center for middle and high school aged students who do not find success in traditional educational settings.
- ***Extended Day / Year Learning:*** All schools offer an after-school tutoring program. The district also collaborates with the WVU Extension Service to offer a 6-week summer program for incoming K-3 students. Students in all grades will be provided with summer programs and/or activities to address learning loss, grade level proficiency goals, and enrichment.

Incoming PreK Students:

- **Registration:** The district utilizes an in person registration process.
- **Brooke County PreK Collaborative Core Team:** The PreK program is a collaboration among the district, child care providers, and Northern Panhandle Head Start. The Core team comprises members from each, in addition to other district personnel who support the program, including the special education director, the school psychologist/transition coordinator, and the nurse coordinator. A full collaborative early childhood team includes additional representatives from other community agencies such as DHHR, Family Resource Network (FRN) and WV Birth to Three; representation from a parent/guardian of a current PreK student, and PreK teachers. Members of these teams are responsible for providing the

leadership and guidance on the operability, compliance, effectiveness, and availability of the PreK program.

- **Early Intervention, Prevention, and Support:** The PreK program is supported by the agencies and/or departments listed above to help identify children in need of additional supports for developmental delays, social/emotional development, or other factors that may impact learning.
- **PreK Program Orientation:** Parents/guardians are provided with several opportunities to meet with teachers or program administrators prior to the start of the school year. Tours of the sites are made
 - available, and all sites hold an informational orientation the week prior to the first full day of PreK. Information is made available on the district, Head Start, childcare and WVDE Early Learning websites.
- **Operational Hours:** To accommodate our youngest learners, the PreK program operates on an adjusted schedule that is based on the district's K-12 schedule. PreK students will attend 5 days per week, except at one of the Head Start classrooms, and attend for approximately 5.5 hours (this may vary). PreK starts approximately 4-5 days later than grades 1-12, and ends approximately one week earlier.
- **Kindergarten Orientation / Primary School Open House:** Each primary school will schedule an orientation for incoming kindergarten students either at the end of the current PreK year or at the beginning of the new school year. Open House activities and school tours will also be provided.
- **Parent Resources and Opportunities:** Informational literature and other resources will be provided at each PreK site, and on the district website. The PreK teachers will also provide a yearly parent activities and workshop plan at the beginning of the year, which will include community service activities.
- **PreK to K:** All Brooke County PreK students are automatically promoted to kindergarten. Parents/guardians do not need to re-enroll students. Children who did not attend the district's PreK program will need to register for kindergarten through the online portal or at the primary school within the student's residential attendance area.
- **Ready, Set, Go!** *WV School Readiness Framework* resources <https://wvde.us/early-and-elementary-learning/ready-set-go-wv-school-readiness/>

- **Incoming Kindergarten Students:**

- **Coordination with Early Childhood / PreK Providers and Programs:** District staff, in collaboration with the agencies listed above, meet regularly regarding PreK and kindergarten initiatives, curriculum, instructional programs, student progress and placement.
- **Student Success and Well-Being:** District staff also coordinates with community agencies, counselors, nurses, and attendance coordinators to ensure all families are aware of the support services available to students; to identify students who need support; and to ensure all students are ready for school.
- **PreK to K Transition Reports:** PreK and kindergarten teachers meet at the end of each school year to share data and discuss student progress for incoming kindergarten students. This ensures students are appropriately placed and services are scheduled/provided, as needed.
- **Orientations / School Tours:** *Brooke Primary North* (serves students who live in Weirton, Follansbee, Colliers) and *Brooke Primary South* (serves students who live in Wellsburg, Bethany, Beech Bottom), both offer kindergarten orientations (*may be held in late spring or week prior to start of school*) and opportunities for families to visit schools. Please contact your child's school to schedule a tour. Orientations and/or Back to School activities are also provided.
- **Primary to Intermediate (Grade 2 to Grade 3):**
- *School Tour* – mid-late May - all 2nd grade students will visit their assigned intermediate school (Brooke Intermediate North or South) with an introduction to staff
- *Families:* Incoming 3rd grade students' families will be invited to end of year PTA sponsored event and may tour school by contacting the school to schedule
- *Website / Social Media:* Intermediate schools' web pages and/or social media pages will be updated with information and resources regarding school transitions; schedules, etc...
- *Back to School Event* – will be held during new school year opening week

- *Open House* – generally held in all elementary schools in October / November

- **Intermediate to Middle School (Grade 4 to Grade 5):**
- *“Move-Up” Day:* Incoming 5th grade students will tour BMS in May; all grade levels will experience “move-up” day; Grade 8 students will tour BHS
- *5th Grade Orientation:* Incoming 5th grade students schedule pick up/self-guided tour in August prior to school starting
- *Open House:* BMS Open House will be scheduled in early fall
- *Transition Meetings:* occur toward the end of each year to ensure student progress and needs are shared with among teachers

- **Middle to High School (Grade 8 to Grade 9):**
- *“Move-Up” Day:* Incoming 9th grade students will tour BHS in May; all grade levels will experience “move-up” day;
- *9th Grade Orientation:* Incoming 9th grade students schedule pick up/self-guided tour in August prior to school starting
- *Open House:* BHS Open House will be scheduled in early fall
- *Course Selection/Schedules; Transition Meetings:* counselors coordinate scheduling activities in the spring to ensure student progress and needs are shared among teachers

- **High School to Post-Secondary or Career:**
- Career Pathways program which includes pathway-specific course recommendations, job-shadowing, internships, and opportunities for dual enrollment to provide for transitions from high school to either the work world or post-secondary education.
- Early Enrollment / Dual Enrollment / AP Courses / Honors Courses: course pathway to post-secondary education
- CTE Program / EDGE Credits / STEM: course pathway to CTE careers
- Counselors provide support and information regarding college application processes, and informational workshops.
- College / career / military fairs are provided; college visit days are offered

Students with Special Needs

For students with special needs who approach the transition from middle to high school, a student/parent orientation/visitation to the high school is scheduled prior to school starting. We employ a collaborative approach to scheduling courses for students as they transition from middle school to high school. Evaluations are completed as required throughout each student’s education to monitor progress, needs, and services. The teachers, counselors and administrators work together to ensure a smooth transition. From high school to post-secondary within special education, students receive instruction in topics related to disability awareness, self-advocacy, employment readiness, and post-secondary education and training and independent living.

Students New to District (Mid-Year Enrollments)

Students who are new to the district are provided with building tours and introductions to classroom teachers. These activities are coordinated through the school counselor in conjunction with the building principal. Additionally, records from previous districts are received and reviewed by counselors, nurses and principals. Parents/families of incoming students are encouraged to participate in school activities and are provided with district processes for communication. All pertinent handbooks/information are provided.

Services from our partners

The Brooke County Public Library offers

Story Hours for children ages 2-5

A summer Reading Program

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

1000 books before kindergarten

The Brooke Hancock Family Resource Network

Parents as Teachers Program

Community Pantry

Car Seats for child Safety

Birthing Classes