

THE SENATOR

Main Number (617) 325-7977 Fax (617) 325-2260

Important Dates:

November

23: Hearing for Chelsea charter school

24: Flag Football "Turkey Bowl"

24-26: No School, Thanksgiving Break

30: K2 curriculum night

December:

14: K-2 Arts Curriculum Night

20: December break begins

Jon Clark ext. 203
Executive Director
Middle School Principal

Kimberly Steadman ext. 272
Elementary School Principal

Tracy Johnson ext. 319
Director of Operations

Nina Keough ext. 205
Program Manager

Joelle Gamere ext. 215
Director of HS Placement

Jorge Martinez ext. 223
Dean of Students

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8th Graders Prepare for the Next Step

For Edward Brooke's eighth grade scholars, the fall is no time for relaxation. They find themselves studying harder than ever, leading sports and extracurricular activities, and cherishing their last year together as Brooke scholars. But for most eighth graders, the fall means one thing: it's time to apply to high school.

"Don't be a procrastinator!" advises eighth grader Jacob Guerrero. Applying to high school requires a great deal of work as well as organization. Each eighth grade student will apply to 3-8 schools, including private independent high schools, parochial schools, exam schools, charter schools, pilot schools, and suburban schools through the METCO program. While the process varies by high school, many require students to complete an application and essay, take a placement test (i.e. SSAT, ISEE, or HSPT), interview with an admissions officer, complete a financial aid application, and submit a school transcript and teacher's recommendation.

"It can be stressful," says eighth grader Alexis Mitchell, "It's a lot of work to manage your time, and you have to know the timeline." To support students and families through the process, the Director of High School Placement, Joelle Gamere, hosts workshops, meets individually with students and families, and prepares school visits, interviews, and application packets that walk families through the application process. This fall, over twenty Edward Brooke teachers and volunteers conducted mock interviews with students and helped them prepare for the SSATs, the placement test for private independent schools.

Type of high school	Class of 2010 % Enrolled
Independent	10%
Parochial	42%
Exam School	19%
Charter	10%
METCO	19%
TOTAL	100%



Director of High School Placement Joelle Gamere assists 8th grade students with high school applications.

Perhaps most importantly, applying to high school requires students to reflect on who they have been at Edward Brooke and who they want to be moving forward. The application "is basically representing yourself," says Ellie Caisey. "It's exciting... We all have made mistakes here, and this is a chance to start over." Whatever their next step, these eighth graders are confident that they have the tools to succeed when they get there, "Edward Brooke prepares you," says Alexis Mitchell, and "helps you to endure whatever you have to go through."

Shout Outs

Congratulations to all our scholars who are showing the core values



Edward Moreta & Erica Nwadike

Brown

Edward deserves a **focus** and **self-determination** shoutout. During reading conferences, Edward is always focused on the teacher and listens carefully to the ways he can improve his reading responses. He asks many questions to make sure he clearly understands the teaching point, which shows he is taking charge of his own education. Because of his focus and self-determination Edward's reading responses continue to improve and earn spots on the Exceptional Work wall.

Erica also deserves a **focus** and **self-determination** shoutout. At the beginning of the year, Erica sometimes had difficulty making meaningful annotations on her Life Work texts. Because of this, she was having trouble understanding the texts, and having difficulty answering multiple choice questions. Over the past few weeks, Erica has taken charge of her own learning. Now, every Life Work text Erica brings back to school includes meaningful annotations that prove she understands the text and cares about becoming a better reader. Because of this self-determination and focus, Erica's multiple choice average has greatly improved, and she is now an annotation role model for our class.



Sensai Cajuste

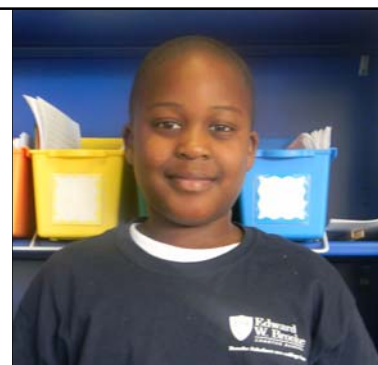
Michigan

Sensai Cajuste deserves a shout-out for showing **all of the core values**. Sensai is seen as a leader in the Michigan community because of her constant focus and willingness to embrace challenges. She never gives up when she is faced with a difficult situation. She knows that she can reach any academic goal through hard work. Keep up the great work, Sensai!

Nedghie Forestal & Lindsey Paul

University of Pennsylvania

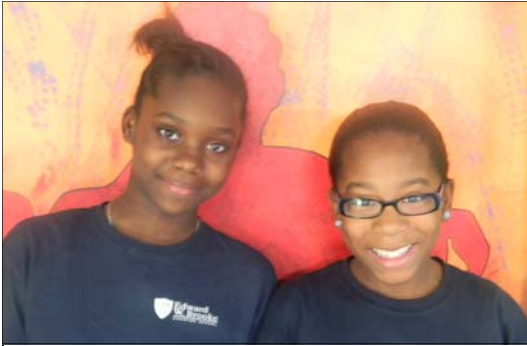
Nedghie and Lindsey show **focus, respect, self-determination, and teamwork** on a daily basis. Both of these scholars stay focused on learning and they strive to do their best work all of the time. They show respect for the classroom rules and they are helpful and kind to their classmates. Nedghie and Lindsey act as models in UPENN for how to show *all of the core values every day!*



Darnel Cineas

University of Massachusetts

Darnel Cineas is a hard-working student who consistently demonstrates the **core values** of our school. He is a team player whose role model behavior sets a fine example to others in the community. Darnel is dedicated to learning. He has moved quickly through reading and fact power levels by staying focused on his education both at home and school. Darnel exemplifies what it means to be a Brooke scholar. Keep up the great work Darnel!



Shamiya Banks & Jana Walker

Colgate

The 6th grade recently took a social studies benchmark, and some students had impressive results:

All 4s

Shamiya Banks
Andys Gonzalez
Randy Williams

All 3s and 4s

Dan Aguilar
Rahina Andre
Joshua Cabrera
Amahre Chandler
Kenley Cineas
Christina Petridis
Isaac Skelly
Jana Walker

Transferred Writing Skills – Wrote in Paragraph Form

Shamiya Banks	Rahina Andre
Kenley Cineas	Jana Walker
Isaac Skelly	Syyana Ortiz
Andys Gonzalez	Ayja-Nee Sadberry
Laurine Pierre-Louis	Christina Petridis
Mackenley Edouard	Joshua Cabrera

From Ms. Kelleher:

I was not surprised to see Shamiya Banks and Jana Walker on this list. Often times in social studies, during class discussions, they will independently decide to take notes if they think material is important and there isn't a handout about it.

Mercedes Washington

Brandeis

Mercedes Washington deserves a shout-out for focus and self-determination. Over the past 6 weeks, Mercedes has completely taken charge of her education. She is doing her best work each day and is taking on challenges instead of giving up. She has developed a wonderful attitude about learning and knows that her hard work will pay off. Because of her hard work, Mercedes has been getting her best quiz scores of the year. She is also encouraging her classmates to also do their best work. Keep it up, Mercedes!



Saniyah Farrow & Rebecca Napeau:

Middlebury

Rebecca shows **self-determination** every day by working her hardest and always checking her work, especially in math! She is a respectful teammate who loves helping out her fellow Middlebury scholars. Rebecca enjoys learning new things and she works just as hard outside of school, too. Keep up the good work, Rebecca!



Saniyah is a hard worker who loves challenges. She even spends extra time before school working on math! Saniyah doesn't give up when something is tricky, and she loves to share her thinking in class. She is a very respectful student who always shows a lot of **integrity!**

Fayleenn Daout & Rolens St. Jean

Simmons

Ms. Mathieu has a shout out for Fayleenn Daout and Rolens St. Jean in Simmons for showing so much **focus** in the last few months. Because of their focus they have been able to make improvement in reading, writing, and in math. They also show some much **self-determination** and never give up when something is hard, instead they keep trying until they figure it out.



EWBCS Alumni Spotlight

By Asia Price, Director of Graduate Services

Catching up with Dezanae Boston-Bernier, EWBCS Class of 2007

As our second class of Edward Brooke graduates immerses itself in the college application process, Dezanae Boston-Bernier has set her sights on area colleges. “Boston University is my top choice because it meets all of my qualifications, will provide me a challenge, and it’s close to home.” In addition to BU, Dezanae is applying to Boston College, Clark University, Emmanuel College, Northeastern University, the University of Massachusetts consortium (not including Boston) and Quinnipiac University. Although she is stressed like any normal senior, she looks at the process and at life through a more mature lens. “One of the lessons I learned at Edward Brooke is that the amount of work you put into anything is the type of reward you will receive. I slip up sometimes, but I know that that is the way things work.”

At Edward Brooke, Dezanae was always studious and determined. She knew that her hard work would lead to a chance at a college-preparatory high school. In addition to the “work hard” mentality instilled in her while in middle school, Dezanae appreciated the discipline at EWBCS. “It provided structure and it was fair in that you knew what was wrong and what was right. In high school, so many of the teachers have different rules that [the discipline is pretty inconsistent.]” With this mindset, Dezanae moved onto Health Careers Academy (now the Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers.)

HCA was Dezanae’s first choice high school because of the preparation the school offers to students who want to explore a career in health sciences. Dezanae intends to be a psychologist; she is fascinated by the way “people think and envision things because everyone is different.” In addition to a curriculum that introduces students to health professions, Dezanae was exposed to many health-related internship opportunities. During every summer beginning in sophomore year, she has worked at the Central Transport department of Brigham and Women’s Hospital. There she gained valuable work and learning experiences.

Where are they now?

Graduates from Edward Brooke’s first class of scholars are attending the following colleges and universities:

Bay State College
 Bloomfield College
 Boston University
 Bridgewater State University
 Bunker Hill Community College
 Concordia College
 Fisher College
 Lasell College
 Mass Bay Community College
 Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
 Northeastern University
 Quincy College
 Rhode Island College
 Suffolk University
 Thomas College
 Union College
 UMass Amherst
 UMass Boston
 UMass Dartmouth
 University of New Hampshire
 Wentworth Institute of Technology
 Winston Salem State University



Dezanae’s other extracurricular activities include the National Honor Society and the Reebok 4 Real Student Human Rights Activist Program. Additionally, Dezanae was the only student chosen from her school to serve on a Private Industry Council (PIC) board meeting; she shared a student’s perspective on the PIC’s preparation for student internships. Yet her most rewarding extracurricular activity has been playing for the girls’ basketball team, which she took up just this year. “I always did well academically, but I felt like this would be the ultimate physical challenge. I always wanted to play but I thought I was too clumsy. I would have a hard time running to the bus stop, let alone up and down the court. I wanted to try something fun and different so I’m really proud of myself [for doing this!]”

As her high school journey approaches its last semester, Dezanae gives the somewhat typical answer of what she looks forward to most in college. “Freedom!” she exclaims. Yet as she is apt to do, she takes a step back and ponders the implications. “[In college] our future is completely in our hands; there is no one to remind us of what is right or wrong. This is the time to put to work all of the practice and training from middle and high school. No one is there to dictate your decisions. This is the ultimate test.” Given that Dezanae has embraced the core values of focus and self-determination, this is a test that she is sure to pass!

EWBCS New Staff Spotlight

Mr. M. Scott Knox

Chief Operating Officer

B.A., Boston College; M.A., Harvard Kennedy School of Government

M. Scott Knox is Edward Brooke's Chief Operating Officer. A new role at Edward Brooke, Mr. Knox is manages Edward Brooke's expansion and replication efforts. Prior to joining the Brooke, Scott was the Vice President of National Expansion at the Steppingstone Foundation where he worked to replicate The Steppingstone Academy to Hartford, CT as well as launch the National Partnership for Educational Access, a national coalition of college access-focused schools and institutions. Scott also led the national growth efforts at Jumpstart, a Boston-based school-readiness program for children in Head Start and other early learning programs, and taught high school in New Orleans.



Why Mr. Knox is happy to join the Edward Brooke team: I was very fortunate to grow up in a town with wonderful public schools and feel very strongly about equal access to opportunity. I was drawn to Brooke because of what it offers to children and families in Boston - an amazing school with great leadership and talented teachers. I feel very proud to be a part of a growing learning community that nurtures the skill development and positive habits of Boston's young people. I have no doubt that the Brooke will serve as a pipeline for future business, education, and community leaders in our city.

Ms. Neusa Ribeiro

Physical Education Teacher, Soccer & Girls' Basketball Coach

B.A., University of Massachusetts, Amherst; M.Ed., University of Massachusetts, Amherst

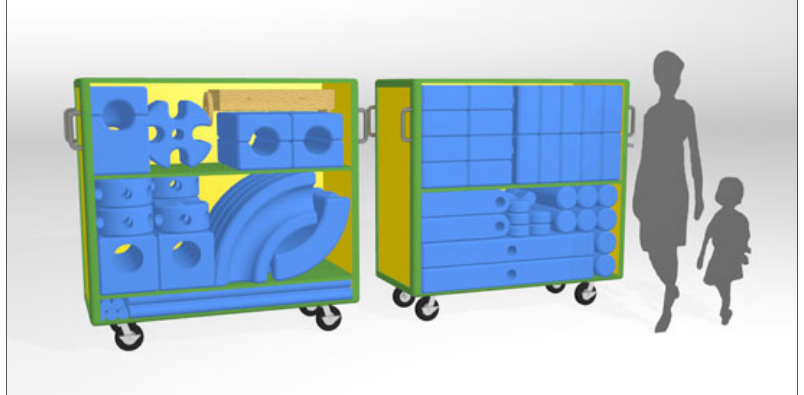


Ms. Ribeiro is responsible for all things athletic at Edward Brooke, serving as the school's new physical education teacher, soccer coach, and coach of the girls' basketball team. Ms. Ribeiro joins the Brooke staff having taught physical education for the last 6 years at the Mark's Meadow School, Amherst, MA. During that time, she also served as the soccer coach at Amherst Regional High School.

What Ms. Ribeiro loves to do when not teaching at Edward Brooke:

I love playing soccer. In 2002, I participated in a tournament similar to the World Cup in Barcelona, Spain where I represented my country, the Cape Verde Islands. Also, I really enjoy dancing. When I am not playing soccer or dancing. I am home hanging out with my family especially my 17 month old nephew and 9year old niece.

As many waiting parents have discovered, students in the Edward Brooke After School Program have found a new source of entertainment and creativity from 5- 6 p.m. Joining elite elementary schools and playgrounds across the country, Edward Brooke has purchased the *Imagination Playground in a Box*, a set of giant blue foam blocks that students can stack, mold, and manipulate to create fantastic structures and imaginary worlds, all in the confines of the dance room, art room, and adjoining hallway. The blocks are designed to encourage “open-ended, free play,” and do not require students to follow scripted rules. Instead children imagine the games they want to play and use the blocks to bring them to life.



“Children can be creative with the blocks,” says third grader and block expert Danielle McConnell. The blocks’ size and shapes allow children to “use their imagination and build what they really want to build,” like a tower that goes all the way to the ceiling. And since they are large and made of foam, “when they fall on somebody, you don’t get hurt.” The blocks also encourage students to work together, according to Associate Teacher Emily Jacobson, and help “kids channel their energy and creativity in a way that promotes teamwork.” So if you are a parent waiting for a dawdling child, you have someone new to blame: those big blue blocks!

The Imagination Playground Comes to Edward Brooke



The Senators Soccer & Track Team Finish a Great Fall Season!

Coach Ratray summarizes the season:

"As the autumnal air descended upon New England, and as the first fingers of frost reached the foliage and springs, the noble athletes of the Edward W. Brooke Charter School took the field. Valiant spirits all, the vaunted squad took on all comers, both on the soccer pitch and galloping through the verdant fields and daunting hills. Both in city squares and country meadows, the soccer squad faced down impossible odds. And our indefatigable band of runners composed a symphony of victory. As the heavy hand of winter attends, our athletes continue their toil, ambition, and grasping at glory."

Congratulations to the members of the track and soccer teams!

Joanna Cabrera	Julia Cabrera
Eva LaPaz	Michelle Joy-Alphonso
Shakharii Fuller	Janique Jean
Theresa Selva	Andys Gonzalez
Tyler Gailliard	Jenaya Hobson
Nataiya Hamilton	Joshua Cabrera
Tiffany Obi	Aaliyah Adams



And Basketball Season Begins!



Boys' & Girls' Basketball Schedule (Additional games may be added)

November 20: Away, McAuliffe Regional Public Charter School

December 13: Home, Roxbury Prep (Boys only)

December 14: Away, Smith Leadership Academy

December 20: Home, KIPP Lynn

December 27: Home, Salem Academy

January 5: Away, Pioneer Charter School of Science

January 10: Home, McAuliffe Regional Public Charter School

January 17: Home, Smith Leadership Academy

Announcements

Arts Curriculum Night for all Kindergarten, 1st Graders and 2nd Graders will be held Tuesday, December 14th at 6:00 pm in the Gymnasium. Come see their magnificent art work, hear their soul stirring sounds and see their spirited moves!!! All scholars will participate.

Please Donate!!



We are collecting winter items (coats, gloves, hats, scarves, sweaters) during the month of November and will make these items available to any of our families that might need a few extra pieces of winter clothing for their children. If you would like to be contacted when some of these items are made available, please call or email Tracy Johnson.

We have ALL benefited from the help of others at some point in our lives so please let us help out if you need it.

Kindergarten Writing Curriculum Night Tuesday, November 30th 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.



We are also collecting new packs of socks, underwear, and undershirts for students who have bathroom accidents. Please send us what you can.

tjohnson@ebrooke.org 617.325.7977x319

WATCH OUR BRAND-NEW EDWARD BROOKE VIDEO!

www.ebrooke.org



We Need Your Help: Come to a Hearing & Support Edward Brooke's Expansion Plan!

Dear families,

As you know, the Edward W. Brooke Charter School has recently submitted proposals to open three additional K-8 Brooke Charter Schools over the next several years. One of the proposed schools will serve the city of Chelsea (as well as students from Boston). On Tuesday, November 23rd, from 4:00-6:00 pm, there will be a public hearing in Chelsea on our school proposal. The hearing is an opportunity for individuals to share their opinions on our proposal (for/against). As charter schools can be politicized, we anticipate that there will be several speakers against our application, and are looking for individuals to come provide a 1-3 minute comment in support of the Brooke!

Specifically, we are looking for parents and family members who would be interested in providing a brief comment in support of the Brooke at the public hearing on November 23rd. Again, the hearing will take place from 4 - 6:00 pm. If you are interested, please contact Scott Knox, Brooke Chief Operating Officer by Friday, 11/19 for details on location, etc.: 617-325-7977 ext. 204 / sknox@ebrooke.org.

Announcements

Know Your Rights.

A workshop about the rights of students with disabilities and their families

When: 6:30-7:30 PM, Thursday, December 2nd

Where: The Academy of the Pacific Rim Charter Public School (in the 3rd floor cafe)

Who: All are welcome

Why: To learn more about the basic rights of parents and guardians of students with disabilities who have 504 plans or Individualized Education Programs (IEPs)

Food? Yes! We'll provide **pizza** and **refreshments**.

Please **RSVP** by **November 23rd** by contacting: Ms. McGrath at 617-325-7977 x 290 org or cmcgrath@ebrooke.org

We hope to see you there!

Nurse's Notes



Parents –

Vision screenings have begun this year. If your child fails the screening test you will receive a letter notifying you of the failed results. I highly encourage you to schedule an appointment with an eye doctor as soon as you can to address any potential vision or eye problems your child may have. Contact me if you'd like any information for free eye exams or eye glasses if your insurance does not cover them.

Ms. Sardon Garrity, school nurse
(617) 325-7977 x202.

Asthma and Medication at School

The days are getting shorter and the temperatures are dropping. The cooler weather may trigger asthma symptoms for your child who has a diagnosis of asthma. If your child may need her/his inhaler or any types of medication at school please take the time to review the Brooke Medication Policy. A healthcare provider order and parent consent are required in order to be able to administer medication to your child at school. You can find a copy of the Medication Policy and the necessary form at our website www.ebrooke.org/ click Scholars and Families and then Current Families.

If you have any questions contact Ms. Sardon Garrity at (617) 325-7977 x202.

FRANKLIN PARK COALITION

Saturday, November 20th
10:00am - Noon
Fall Leaf Raking! (jumping in piles encouraged!)

Come participate in this seasonal ritual, especially if you don't have a back yard with your own leaves at home. Bring a rake and gloves if you have them - we'll have plenty for those who don't. The Parks Department can't possibly manage the leaves on all the paths in the park. Getting them raked before winter means we won't have a wet mess in the spring. Meet at Valley Gates Parking Lot - there'll be plenty of hot chocolate if it's a cold day.

Mayor Menino's Game of the Week: Watch action-packed televised coverage of exciting football and basketball games each week during the fall and winter athletic seasons. Watch on Boston City TV on Sundays at 12pm or Tuesdays at 7:30pm. Also, be sure to catch past episodes on www.cityofboston.gov/gameoftheweek

Soccer Clinics: Boys & Girls ages 5-10 with an interest in soccer can drop-in on Saturday mornings from 10am-12pm until Dec 4. Holland Community Center. \$10 membership. 617-635-5141

Skate Night: Free skate nights at the Gallivan Community Center every Friday from Nov 5-Dec 17. Ages 6-12 at 6-6:45pm and ages 13-19 at 7-7:45pm. Roller-skates/Rollerblades only! You are encouraged to bring your own skates. 61 Woodruff Way, Mattapan. 617-635-5252

Saturday Open Gym: "Healthy Kids Healthy Future" is sponsoring a free program for families with children ages 3-8. Come and get moving together! Madison Park Community Center every Saturday. Nov 6-27. 55 Malcolm X Blvd Roxbury. 617-373-7615

Teachers	Ext.	Subject/Homeroom
Auritt, Rebecca	266	1st Gr. – Dartmouth
Badalamenti, Kristen	308	Art
Cardoso, Jon's Alison	279	2nd Gr. – Leslie
Carey, Brian	269	Music
Courtney, Lauren	n/a	1st Gr. AT
Duffy, Christopher	n/a	5th Gr. AT
Durfee, Aurora	n/a	2nd Gr. AT
Forrest, Alex	291	3rd Gr. – Michigan
Forte, Sabrina	315	4th Gr. – Harvard
Friedmann, Alison	201	3rd Gr. – Williams
Friedmann, Paul	271	7th Gr. – Evergreen Math/Sci.
Gallaspy, Jen	311	6th Gr. – Maryland ELA
Allison Godoff	n/a	6th Gr. AT
Gondek, Jen	282	Student Support
Grossman, Elizabeth	299	5th Gr. – Brown
Hedberg, Ali	320	8th Gr. – Atlantic ELA
Hicks, Mallory	267	1st Gr. – Middlebury
Jacobson, Emily	n/a	4th Gr. AT
Kelleher, Patricia	283	6th Gr. – Colgate ELA
Kendall, Helen	n/a	7th/8th Gr. AT
Kirby, Katherine	299	5th Gr. – Brown
Lewis, Michelle	281	1st Gr. – Notre Dame
Love, Lyle	210	Kinder. – Upenn
Magleby, Melinda	325	8th Gr. – Atlantic Math/Sci.
Mathieu, Elza	265	Kinder – Simmons
McGir, Katherine	219	2nd Gr. – UVA
Moreland, Karimah	220	Dance & Drama
Muratore, Tara	n/a	Kinder AT
Ouellette, Katie	293	2nd Gr.-Northeastern
Paret, Emily	209	Kinder – Rochester
Ratray, Rue	225	7th Gr. – Evergreen ELA
Ribeiro, Neusa	288	Physical Education
Ryan, Whitney	218	4th Gr. – Princeton
Sayer, Emily	313	3rd Gr. – Chicago
Schnitzer, Sara	324	6th Gr. – Maryland Math/Sci.
Scott, Collin	294	2nd Gr.-U Mass
Skidmore, Char	208	Kinder – Wheelock
Soref, Wendy	208	1st Gr. – Cornell
Stevens, Katie	281	5th Gr.. – Bates
Thornton, Meg	265	5th Gr. – Bowdoin
Vigil, Kayla	327	6th Gr. – Colgate Math/Sci.
Vincent, Tara	n/a	3rd Gr. AT
Waldman, Abby	292	4th Gr. – Brandeis
Weren, Jes	216	3rd Gr. – Tufts



The Edward Brooke Faculty & Staff would like to express our sincerest thanks to all the parents who volunteer at school.

You are the best!!

If you would like to volunteer, please contact
 Tracy Johnson
 tjohnson@ebrooke.org
 617.325.7977 x319



November 2010 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 First grade "Gas" presentation	2	3 End of 1st Trimester	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Report Cards Sent Home	11 No School Veteran's Day	12 No School Conference Day	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Middle School Progress Reports sent Home	22	23 Chelsea Hearing for new EWBCS	24 No School Turkey Bowl	25 No School Thanksgiving Break	26 No School Thanksgiving Break	27
28	29	30 Kindergarten Writing Curriculum Night				

December 2010 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 K-2 Arts Curriculum Night	15	16	17	18
19	20 No School	21 No School	22 No School	23 No School	26 No School	27
28	29 No School	30 No School				