



FOR TEACHERS, STAFF & ADMINISTRATORS

ISSUE 3 • 2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR

LEAD STORY

Family Literacy Night draws a record 1,100 guests

Cedar Ridge, Lakeside, and Maple Grove elementary schools welcomed more than 1,100 students and family members to our fall Family Literacy Night on October 22, nearly double last year's turnout.

Families rotated through twelve reading stations led by teachers, librarians, and high school volunteers. Every child went home with two new books, thanks to a donation from the Brookhaven Education Foundation.

"We saw parents and kids reading side by side on the cafeteria floor," said Lakeside librarian Paul Kim. "That's the whole point." Planning for the spring event begins in January.



Families explored twelve reading stations across three campuses.

A message from the superintendent

Thank you for an extraordinary start to the year. Attendance is up, our new reading curriculum is in every K-5 classroom, and your care for students shows in every result on this page.



Dr. Angela Whitfield
Superintendent

95.2%

Average daily attendance, up
1.4 points

14

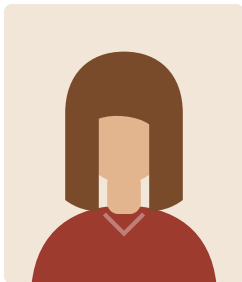
Schools serving 9,800 students

312

Teachers completed reading
curriculum training

1,100

Guests at Family Literacy Night



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Tanya Brooks

4TH GRADE • CEDAR RIDGE
ELEMENTARY

In her twelfth year at Cedar Ridge, Tanya launched a student-run class library with more than 600 books, all checked out and returned by her 4th graders.

"When students run the library, they start to see themselves as readers."

REMINDER

Benefits open enrollment closes November 20

Review your medical, dental, and vision elections in the employee portal by 5:00 PM on Friday, November 20. If you make no changes, your current coverage continues.

- Two new dental plan options this year
- Flexible spending limit rises to \$3,300
- Questions? Visit a benefits help session on Nov 10 or 12

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

December learning calendar

DATE	SESSION	LOCATION
Dec 2	New-teacher cohort: classroom management, part 2	District Office, Room 4
Dec 4	Early release: K–12 professional learning (all staff)	Home campuses
Dec 9	Reading curriculum coaching cycles begin	K–5 classrooms
Dec 10	Special education compliance refresher (online)	Learning portal
Dec 16	Instructional technology open lab, 3:30–5:00 PM	Brookhaven High library

Register for all sessions in the learning portal. Continuing education credit is available for every session.



BE PREPARED

How winter weather decisions are made

When snow or ice is forecast, district leaders inspect roads beginning at 4:00 AM. Delay or closure decisions are made by 5:30 AM and shared in this order:

- Text and phone alerts to all staff
- District website and mobile app
- Local TV and radio stations

Update your contact details in the staff portal so alerts reach you.



Early release day for professional learning

Students dismiss three hours early. Buses run on the early-release schedule, and after-school programs remain open until 6:00 PM.

KUDOS CORNER

Thank you, colleagues

Maple Grove custodial team

Turned the gym around in 40 minutes between the book fair and the family dance.

Marcus Ellison, transportation

Kept all 38 routes running on time during October’s road construction.

Brookhaven High counseling office

Helped 214 seniors finish college applications during Application Week.

Lakeside cafeteria staff

Introduced a student-voted menu day that doubled breakfast participation.

HUMAN RESOURCES
hr@brookhaven.example
Ext. 2100

TECHNOLOGY HELP DESK
help@brookhaven.example
Ext. 2400

SHARE YOUR NEWS
Submit stories by the 15th
news@brookhaven.example

Brookhaven Unified School District is a fictional organization created for a Kelsey Renée Creative Studios portfolio demonstration. Names, people, and figures are invented.