

Upcoming Events

June 1st Softball Game at Harbor at 11:30 am

June 3rd Softball Game at Harbor at 11:30 am

June 8th Softball Game at RFK at 11:00 am

June 10th Softball Game at RFK at 11:00 am

June 16th

End of School Carnival

June 17th

Last Day of School

June 20th

Tentatively scheduled Whale Watching with NE Aquarium

Pawsoxs Game being scheduled

A Newsletter for Parents/Guardians and friends of Brandon at the suggestion of the parent advisory council



Pride Day | Student Authors

On May 26th, Brandon was alive with activity as the annual Pride Day took place. Students took part in painting, planting, a bbq and softball. When asked what Pride Day is all about, students shared the following:

"Fun, it's to help make campus look better because you want to be somewhere you like and so you can feel prideful about it." -L.K-P.

"...taking good care of the environment and taking pride about yourself." -J.S.

"...to show appreciation of the program. They care about us so there is a day to chill and appreciate what we have." -C.M.

"Planting so we have more areas of nice outside." -N. OR.

"Food and fun and helping out the program."-C.B.

"To clean up the school and have fun. We could be somewhere else, not here. The streets would be a lot worse, so we should appreciate we are here." -D.M.

We (the students of room 2) wrote a book together about a prince and his adventures trying to save his mother, the

queen, after his father died. We worked on writing it, putting it together, and drawing pictures over a whole week. Then we got our picture taken dressed up in business suits so that we could write bios for our book. At Recognition Night we shared them with people so they could take copies. We only have 5 left out of 20. We also had people sign-up as fan club members. Signing autographs on the books made us "feel cool, like we are famous."

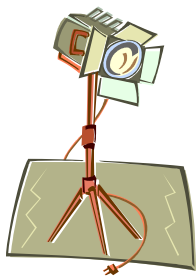
It was really fun and cool to do this and we are planning to write the sequel about what it's like for Prince Jeffrey to be a king now. This was a great activity to do so we would tell other people to write! We want to thank Ryan for helping us with the cover illustration, Ms. Trish for the idea for the author bios and Larry for the suit jackets.



Softball Update



The Brandon Bulldogs' Softball Season is underway and after four games the boys are 1-3. The team has demonstrated hard work, good sportsmanship and dedication in each of their four games. With limited roster spots on the team, players have been on their best behavior and made an effort to complete all of their school work in order to participate. Although there are no home games at Brandon, the boys have been super committed to demonstrating the mission of the Brandon School. Due to rainy weather there have been several cancellations and postponements this season. However the team remains focused and optimistic that June will bring sunnier days and opportunities to play more softball. The team has shown significant improvement since the beginning of the season. Defensively, the team continues to communicate, play together and avoid negativity on the field. There have been several instances where Brandon showed maturity and respectful behavior towards their opponents. Despite some difficult losses, the team has responded positively to adverse situations. This season, the coaching staff has delegated one captain thus far, and that student athlete being Shawn J. He has demonstrated extraordinary leadership, teamwork, and skill without hesitation. Meanwhile, student athlete Andreas P, has shown a desire to improve in any way possible, and has stuck with the team through good and bad. Mike S, has been the big bat and defensive standout for the team, as has emerged as a team leader. John S has proven that no matter how old and what size, he can compete with the best. We encourage all staff, students, parents, and guardians to show their support to the team in any way that they can. We as coaches are honored and privileged to support these boys in their mission to be student-athletes, and appreciate the ongoing support from all of Brandon Staff and supporters from the outside community. GO BULLDOGS!!!



Student Spotlight

I'm a 17 year old from Rhode Island who came to Brandon in September of 2007. I came to Brandon to work on boundaries and anxiety. It's been hard to work through everything but I'm finishing the program and leaving soon. I think I've accomplished a lot. Recently I got a new visiting resource which has been helpful. I have someone to talk to and she is going to be my first permanent family. It's hard not having a family...others talk about their families and what they do and I would feel very withdrawn and left out. Now that I have someone, I feel like I can do anything. I would tell other kids, if you have family keep close to them and don't let them go. I've been up for adoption for 8 years and it's been a really tough journey. I was not treated the best as a child. I was abused and I went to school with barely any clothes. I didn't have good hygiene because we didn't have a good water supply. I was bullied and picked on a lot, but I did have a lot of friends who

helped me. I think what happened to me in my childhood made me a better person today. It helps me to realize that every kid should be treated the same and have a good childhood. It makes me feel appreciative of what I am getting now.

To all the parents, keep your children safe and love them to the best of your ability. To staff, you've helped me a lot along the way. I've gone from being desperate, anything could happen to me, to being overwhelmed with all the good stuff.

I'm looking forward to going to college, to hopefully work with people, especially kids. I'd like to have kids myself including foster and adoptive kids. I hope that when I leave I don't look back to any of my mistakes. What I mean by this is that I want to move on in my life and not make the same mistakes again. I want to be a good person, a helpful person who does a lot of good deeds.

Thanks for taking the time to read about me.

March Staff of the Month: Jenn Bricher



Jenn has been working with our clients for 6 years and for the past four has quietly led the ACC team as well. Jenn balances both her case load AND her administrative duties and never seems stressed-despite the fact that she does all this on a part time schedule. She easily supports the ACC team by helping them meet their productivity needs and by helping BRTC staff to understand what productivity actually is. Jenn's professionalism and kind demeanor never waivers even on the most difficult of days. She continues to be an excellent clinician who is able to balance the needs of her clients and families while always taking into consideration their residential, clinical and educational needs. They are lucky to have her!

April Staff of the Month: Bill Bell

Bill Bell continues to do a wonderful job working with Room 1 students and is deserving of this recognition. Year after year, he has quietly provided the stable and consistent environment that these boys require while at the same time providing challenging lessons and units on a day to day basis. Given the fact that Bill works in a self-contained classroom, he is particularly faced with the challenge of differentiating his instruction in all subject areas to address the various achievement levels that his students present. Further, Bill is extremely consistent and reliable, rarely, if ever taking a day off from his teaching. He has gone above and beyond to advocate for his students and assist them in getting their needs met. One recent example of this was his volunteering to personally take a student to Rhode Island during his April vacation to participate in a long awaited assessment. We greatly appreciate Bill's commitment to his students and to our department!!!

