

Welcome to Broad Ripple Middle School
Information for Families & Students



Dear Broad Ripple Middle School Families,

Welcome to the 2025-26 school year! I am incredibly excited to greet both our returning families and those who are new to the Broad Ripple Middle School community, especially our incoming 6th graders. As an IB World School, we are committed to fostering a challenging and engaging learning environment, and we can't wait to embark on this journey with your children.

Our theme for the 2025-26 school year is **Connecting through a Culture of Curiosity**. We believe that by nurturing a spirit of inquiry and connection, we empower our students to explore, discover, and truly understand the world around them. Our symbol, the **Lamp**, represents the illumination of knowledge and the guidance we provide as students light their own paths of learning.

Middle school is a time of incredible growth and change, and we are dedicated to making this transition as smooth and successful as possible for every student. We understand that new experiences can come with many questions, so we've put together this packet of key information to help you navigate the start of the school year.

We are incredibly enthusiastic about the upcoming school year and the potential it holds for our students. We look forward to partnering with you to create a vibrant and successful learning experience rooted in **Connecting through a Culture of Curiosity**.

Please mark your calendars for our New Student Orientation and Back to School Night. These events are invaluable for a strong start to the year.

If you have any questions before these events, please do not hesitate to contact me at 317-752-2060 or via email at baughjr@myips.org. You can also find relevant information on our school website: www.myips.org/broadripple

Sincerely,

Jeremy Baugh

Jeremy Baugh - Principal
Broad Ripple Middle School, An IB World School
Indianapolis Public Schools

Important Dates & School Calendar Overview

Getting off to a great start involves knowing key dates! Please mark your calendars for these important events. A comprehensive academic calendar with all holidays, breaks, and special events will be provided to you and also posted on our school website.

- **6th Grade Orientation:**
 - **Date:** Monday, July 28, 2025
 - **Time:** 5:00-7:30 PM
 - **Who:** This is a crucial opportunity for **all incoming 6th graders** and **Parents/Guardians**, to familiarize themselves with the school building, meet staff, and learn about our daily routines. We highly encourage attendance!

- **Back to School Night:**
 - **Date:** Tuesday, July 29, 2025
 - **Time:** 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM
 - **Who:** Returning students and families!
 - **What:** Pick up student schedules, meet your child's teachers, explore classrooms, community partner offerings, sign up for athletics and clubs, walk your child's schedule, and connect with other Broad Ripple families. This is an excellent chance to build relationships, walk your child's schedule, and practice opening his/her locker.

- **First Day of School (All Students):**
 - **Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025
 - **Time:** 9:00 AM (Doors open at 8:40 AM)

- **Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences:**
 - **Dates:** October 24, 2025 & March 27, 2026. Sign-ups for conferences will be via Sign-Up Genius. A link will be sent to families approximately one month prior to each conference date.

- **School Holiday Breaks:**
 - A full academic calendar outlining all school holidays, professional development days, and longer breaks (e.g., Fall Break, Winter Break, Spring Break) is available here: <https://myips.org/broadripple/calendar/>

Daily Schedule & Logistics

School Hours:

- **Official School Day:** 9:00 AM - 3:48 PM
- **Building Open/Student Arrival:** Students may begin arriving at **8:40 AM**. During this time, students will pick up breakfast in the cafeteria, go to their locker to prepare for the day, and head to their morning advisory class.

Arrival & Dismissal Procedures:

To ensure the safety and efficiency of student arrival and dismissal, we have specific procedures in place. Detailed maps and instructions will be provided in a separate handout in your physical welcome packet.

- **Car Rider Drop-off/Pick-up: 8:40 - 8:50 AM, 3:48-3:55 PM**
 - Car Riders are picked up and dropped off along Compton Street. A single file line of cars will form along Compton Street (headed North - towards Broad Ripple Ave.). Students may enter/exit the vehicle on the passenger side only, please. Please follow the staff's directions carefully.
 - For safety, please do not drop off or pick up students on main roads surrounding the school or in parking lots surrounding the school.
 - Students are to be dropped off on Compton Street and will walk around the building to enter Door 1 during arrival. Students will exit Door 17 at 3:48 PM and will form a waiting area on the sidewalk. Please stay in your vehicle, as students will come to you.
- **Bus Riders:**
 - Information regarding bus stops and times will be sent directly by Indianapolis Public Schools transportation.
 - Students should arrive at their designated bus stop at least 10 minutes before the scheduled pick-up time.
 - All students should know their bus number as this is the primary method of identification for dismissal.
 - Bus riders will enter through Doors 8 & 9. Students will exit with their teacher at the end of the day via Door 17 at 3:53-4:00 PM
- **Walkers/Bikers:**
 - Students walking or biking to school should use designated crosswalks and follow all traffic laws.
 - Bicycle racks are available on school grounds near the main entrance (Near Door 2).
 - Students will enter and exit Door 1.
 - Students may arrive between 8:40-8:50 AM. The doors will open at 8:40 AM and will close at 9:00 AM.


Bell Schedule:

Broad Ripple Middle School operates on a block schedule to accommodate our IB Middle Years Programme and diverse course offerings. This means that students will have Advisory daily, and four periods per day, on a rotating basis (A/B Day - Black/Orange Day).


- Students will learn to navigate their schedules with support from teachers and school staff during the first two days of school, during orientation activities.
- A sample bell schedule is located here: (a detailed schedule will be provided at orientation and back to school night)

| Broad Ripple Middle School 2025-26 - Bell Schedule | | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| 6th Grade | | 7th Grade | | 8th Grade | |
| Advisory | 9:00-9:25 (25) | Advisory | 9:00-9:30 (30) | Advisory | 9:00-9:35 (35) |
| Passing | 9:25-9:29 (4) | Passing | 9:30-9:34 (4) | Passing | 9:35-9:39 (4) |
| Period 1 | 9:29-10:51 (82) | Period 1 | 9:34-10:55 (81) | Period 1 | 9:39-10:59 (80) |
| Passing | 10:51-10:55 (4) | Passing | 10:55-10:59 (4) | Transition | 10:59-11:01 (2) |
| Period 2 (Part 1) | 10:55-11:38 (43) | Period 2 | 10:59-12:20 (81) | LUNCH | 11:01-11:30 (29) |
| Transition | 11:38-11:40 (2) | Transition | 12:20-12:22 (2) | Transition | 11:30-11:32 (2) |
| LUNCH | 11:40-12:09 (29) | LUNCH | 12:22-12:51 (29) | Period 2 | 11:32-12:52 (80) |
| Transition | 12:09-12:11 (2) | Transition | 12:51-12:53 (2) | Passing | 12:52-12:56 (4) |
| Period 2 (Part 2) | 12:11-12:50 (39) | Period 3 | 12:53-2:14 (81) | Period 3 | 12:56-2:16 (80) |
| Passing | 12:50-12:54 (4) | Passing | 2:14-2:18 (4) | Passing | 2:16-2:20 (4) |
| Period 3 | 12:54-2:16 (82) | Period 4 | 2:18-3:45 (87) | Period 4 | 2:20-3:45 (85) |
| Passing | 2:16-2:20 (4) | | | | |
| Period 4 | 2:20-3:45 (85) | | | | |

- The Orange/Black - A/B Schedule is here: [CLICK HERE](#)



BRMS 2025-2026 Calendar



Orange (A)
Black (B)

July 25

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su | M | Tu | W | Th | F | Sa |
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| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

August 25

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| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

September 25

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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |

October 25

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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
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November 25

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December 25

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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

January 26

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| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

February 26

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| Su | M | Tu | W | Th | F | Sa |
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| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

March 26

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| Su | M | Tu | W | Th | F | Sa |
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| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
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April 26

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| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
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May 26

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| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

Summary of Days

| Students | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Semester 1 | 88 |
| 1 Asynchronous Day | |
| Semester 2 | 92 |
| 2 Asynchronous Day | |
| TOTAL | 180 |

Events

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Aug 4-5 | Students' First Two Days |
| Sep 1 | Labor Day - No School |
| Sep 2 | Staff Prof. Dev - No School |
| Oct 13-17 | Fall Break |
| Oct 24 | Student Progress Conferences |
| Nov 3 | Staff Prof. Dev - No School |
| Nov 26-28 | Thanksgiving Break |
| Dec 22-Jan 2 | Winter Break |
| Jan 19 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday |
| Feb 16 | Presidents' Day - No School |
| Feb 17 | Staff Prof. Development Day |
| Mar 16-20 | Spring Break |
| Mar 27 | Student Progress Conferences |
| May 21 | Last Day for Students |
| May 22 | Records Day - Staff Only |
| May 25 | Memorial Day - Closed |

Jul 29 New Student Orientation
10:00-12:00 PM
Back to School Night
5:00-7:30 PM

Communication Channels

Strong communication between home and school is a cornerstone of student success. We encourage open dialogue and provide several ways for you to stay informed and connected.

- **Broad Ripple Middle School Website:**
 - **Access:** www.myips.org/broadripple
 - Our school website is your primary resource for general announcements, school news, event calendars, staff directories, school policies, and program information (including details about the IB MYP). We encourage you to visit it regularly for updates.
- **Kinvo:**
 - **Purpose:** Kinvo is our main communication platform for quick updates, school-wide announcements, emergency notifications, and direct messages from teachers.
 - **Action Required:** Please ensure your contact information (email address and phone number) is up-to-date with the school office. Verification forms will be available at Orientation and Back to School Night.
- **Teacher Email & Toddle:**
 - **Email:** Each teacher's email address is available on the school website. This is the best way to discuss specific questions about your child's progress in a particular class.
 - **Toddle:** All teachers will use Toddle as a platform for sharing assignments, resources, and important class-specific updates. Students will receive training on how to use Toddle during the first few weeks of school. Parents can also access Toddle, and are encouraged to do so. Here are instructions for how to access Toddle: [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Progress Reports & Report Cards:**
 - **Toddle:** Regular updates on your child's academic progress will be available throughout the year via Toddle (like a digital course tool and gradebook). These reports will detail grades, assignment completion, and teacher comments.
 - **PowerSchool:** PowerSchool is used for attendance tracking, Immunization records, discipline, historical data, and reporting of grades for students at the end of each semester.
- **Social Media:**
 - Follow our official school social media channels ([Facebook](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#)) for highlights of student activities and school events.

Academic Programs & Support

(IB Middle Years Programme)

As an authorized IB World School, Broad Ripple Middle School is dedicated to providing a high-quality, challenging, and international education for all students.

IB Middle Years Programme (MYP):

- **What it is:** The MYP is a challenging framework that encourages students aged 11 to 16 to make practical connections between their studies and the real world. It's a five-year program, with grades 6-8 at Broad Ripple Middle School forming the initial three years.
- **Key Features:**
 - **Inquiry-Based Learning:** Students are encouraged to ask questions, research, and explore topics deeply, rather than just memorizing facts.
 - **Global Contexts:** Learning is connected to real-world issues, helping students understand their place in the world.
 - **Interdisciplinary Learning:** Teachers collaborate to help students see connections between different subjects.
 - **Approaches to Learning (ATL) Skills:** Students develop skills in communication, social interaction, self-management, research, and thinking.
 - **Service as Action:** Students are encouraged to engage in community service and reflect on their impact.

Curriculum:

Our curriculum is designed to meet rigorous academic standards while fostering critical thinking, creativity, and international-mindedness across all subject areas:

- **Core Subjects:** English Language Arts (Language & Literature), Mathematics, Science, Social Studies (Individuals & Societies).
- **World Languages:** Students will have the opportunity to begin or continue their study of a world language. At Broad Ripple Middle School, we offer Spanish and Mandarin.
- **Arts:** Visual Arts, Performing Arts (Band, Choir, and Orchestra).
- **Physical and Health Education:** Focusing on well-being and physical literacy.
- **Design:** Combining practical and intellectual skills to create products and solutions.

Student Support Services:

We are committed to providing a supportive environment where every student can thrive. Our support services include:

- **Academic Intervention:** Targeted support for students who may need additional help in specific subject areas.

- **Counseling & Social Work Services:** Our school counselors and social worker provide academic, social, and emotional support to students. They are available to meet with students individually or in groups and can connect families with outside resources if needed.
- **Special Education Programs:** Comprehensive services are provided for students with identified learning needs, in accordance with individualized education plans (IEPs).
- **English Language Learner (ELL) Support:** Dedicated programs and support are available for students who are learning English as a new language.

If you have any concerns about your child's academic progress, social-emotional well-being, or specific learning needs, please do not hesitate to reach out to their teachers or our student services team.

School Rules & Expectations:

There are several documents that anchor our community:

- [IPS Code of Conduct](#): Behavioral expectations and guidance for all IPS Students
- [BRMS Student/Family Handbook](#): A guide to the building-specific expectations and rules for students and families.
- [IB Learner Profile Traits](#): Core principles we live by as IB Learners

Extracurricular Activities

Middle school is a fantastic time for students to explore their interests, develop new skills, and connect with peers outside of the classroom. Broad Ripple Middle School offers a wide variety of extracurricular activities throughout the year.

Encourage your child to get involved! Information about sign-ups, tryouts, and meeting schedules will be shared during the first few weeks of school via ParentSquare and daily announcements.

Sports Programs:

Broad Ripple Middle School offers various sports for students to participate in. These programs focus on teamwork, sportsmanship, and physical fitness.

IPS ATHLETICS **MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS OFFERINGS**
Beginning 2024-2025

Providing all IPS students a variety of worthwhile athletic opportunities, allowing an increased number of students to learn & develop holistically through sports participation.

Scan QR code below for more info including facility upgrades.

FALL

- Tackle Football
- Girls Volleyball
- Baseball
- Softball
- Boys & Girls Cross Country
- Boys Tennis
- Girls Golf

WINTER

- Boys Basketball
- Girls Basketball
- Wrestling
- Boys & Girls Futsal
- Boys & Girls Swimming (Starts 25-26)
- Competitive Cheer

SPRING

- Girls & Boys Flag Football
- Boys Volleyball
- Girls & Boys Track
- Girls & Boys Soccer
- Girls Tennis
- Boys Golf

QR code for more information.

Note: Eligibility requirements (e.g., academic standing, physical exams) will apply. More details will be provided at the start of the season. You can preview forms, code of conduct, and the waiver by reviewing the July BRMS Newsletter.

Clubs & Organizations:

We offer a diverse range of clubs catering to various interests. Listen for announcements and look for sign-up sheets!

- **Academic Clubs:**
 - Robotics Club
 - Chess Club
 - Math Hoops
 - Spelling Bee
 - Reading Rockets - Book Club
- **Arts & Performance Clubs:**
 - Art Club
 - Drama/Theater Club
 - Choir/Band/Orchestra (extracurricular opportunities)
- **Leadership & Service Clubs:**
 - Student Council
 - Rocket Reps
 - National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) - for eligible 7th and 8th graders
 - Service Learning Initiatives
- **Interest-Based Clubs:**
 - Debate Club
 - Book Club
 - Environmental Club
 - Gaming Club (Board Games/Strategy Games)

How to Get Involved:

- **Listen to Announcements:** Daily school announcements will provide information about upcoming club meetings and sports tryouts.
- **Check Toddle/BRMS Website:** Information and sign-up forms will be posted on ParentSquare.
- **Talk to Teachers/Counselors:** Your child's teachers and counselors can provide guidance on clubs and activities that might be a good fit.
- **Attend the Activities Fair:** We may host an "Activities Fair" early in the school year where students can learn about all available opportunities.

Tips for New Middle School Parents: What to Expect

The transition from elementary to middle school is a significant milestone for both students and families. Here are some insights and tips to help ease the adjustment:

- **Increased Independence:**
 - **What to Expect:** Your child will be expected to manage more responsibilities. This includes keeping track of their schedule, remembering assignments for multiple classes, organizing materials for different subjects, and moving independently between classrooms.
 - **How to Help:** Encourage your child to take ownership of their schoolwork and organization. Provide them with a quiet space for homework, help them establish a routine, and check in regularly without micromanaging. Remind them to use their BRMS IB Agenda, and Communication Folder.
- **Multiple Teachers and Classrooms:**
 - **What to Expect:** Unlike elementary school where they primarily had one teacher, your child will now have a different teacher for each core subject, plus various specials and electives. This means interacting with many different personalities and teaching styles.
 - **How to Help:** Get to know their teachers (Open House is a great start!). Encourage your child to communicate directly with their teachers if they have questions about assignments or understanding content. Stay tuned for a date/time.
- **Academic Rigor and Homework:**
 - **What to Expect:** The academic workload generally increases in middle school. There will be more complex assignments, longer-term projects, and a greater expectation for independent study.
 - **How to Help:** Establish a consistent homework routine. Ask about their homework and projects daily. If your child is struggling, encourage them to seek help from their teachers during office hours or after school. Don't do the work for them, but support their efforts.
- **Social and Emotional Development:**
 - **What to Expect:** Middle school is a pivotal time for social growth. Students are navigating new friendships, social dynamics, and developing their sense of self. They may experience a wide range of emotions.
 - **How to Help:** Listen actively and empathetically to your child's social experiences. Encourage healthy friendships and involvement in positive extracurricular activities. Help them develop problem-solving skills for social challenges. Remind them that our counselors are there to support them.
- **Communication with School:**
 - **What to Expect:** While teachers will communicate with you, a key goal in middle school is to foster student self-advocacy. Your child will be encouraged to speak directly with their teachers and counselors first about their questions or concerns.

- **How to Help:** Support your child in taking the initiative. If they've tried to resolve an issue themselves and still need help, then step in. Use ParentSquare and email for direct communication with teachers or the school office when necessary.
- **Health and Well-being:**
 - **What to Expect:** Adequate sleep, nutrition, and physical activity remain crucial. Encourage healthy habits, and be mindful of screen time.
 - **How to Help:** Model healthy behaviors. Discuss the importance of a balanced lifestyle. If you have concerns about your child's physical or mental health, please reach out to our school nurse or counselors.

We are here to partner with you through this exciting stage of your child's education. Your involvement and support are invaluable!

Contact Information & Resources

We are here to help! Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

Broad Ripple Middle School Main Office:

- **Phone:** 317-693-5700
- Administrative Associate: Aaronda McGowan
- Office Assistants: Johnnie Pope and Ferrer Leon (Spanish Speaker)
- **Email:** mcgowana@myips.org
- **Hours:** Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM (during school days)

Key Contacts:

- **Principal:**
 - Jeremy Baugh - baughjr@myips.org 317-752-2060
- **Assistant Principal(s):**
 - Tonia Thompson - thompsonltl@myips.org
 - Jon Price - pricejon@myips.org
- **Social Worker:**
 - Cheryl Mehringer - mehringc@myips.org
- **School Counselors:**
 - Mary Andrews - GR6 Counselor - andrewsm@myips.org
 - Sierra Schmitt - GR7 Counselor - schmitts@myips.org
 - Rachel Hunsburger - GR8 Counselor - hunsburgerr@myips.org
 - *Our counselors are a great resource for academic, social, and emotional support.*
- **School Nurse:**
 - Anrea Dillon, RN - dillona@myips.org
 - *Contact for health-related questions, medication, and immunizations*

Online Resources:

- **Broad Ripple Middle School Website:** www.myips.org/broadripples
 - *For academic calendar, staff directory, school policies, news, and program information.*
- **Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) Website:** www.myips.org
 - *For district-wide information, transportation, and enrollment details.*

Stay Connected:

- Remember to keep your contact information updated with the school office.
- Check the school website regularly for important announcements and communicate frequently with teachers and staff via email