



W.J. Brogden Middle School

Mr. Anthony White, Principal
Mr. Roderick Boyles, Assistant Principal
Ms. Desirae Smith, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Lauren Eaton, Assistant Principal

8th Grade Promotion Parent Letter

April 22, 2024

Dear 8th grade Students and Parents,

As the end of the year quickly approaches, Brogden will host several events to celebrate your 8th grade students for their excellent academic and extracurricular achievement. We are excited to commemorate the end of another successful chapter in their lives.

Because we want all of our 8th grade students to be able to participate in these festivities and ceremonies, this letter communicates our expectations for their academic focus as well as their behaviors as the year comes to a close.

8th Grade Promotion events are as follows:

Date	Event	Time
Saturday, June 1st	8th Grade Semi Formal- Sneaker Ball	5:00pm-8:00pm
Wednesday, June 5 th	Promotion Ceremony Rehearsal/Practice	11:30am-1:00pm
	Ice Cream Social	1:00pm-2:20pm
Thursday, June 6 th	8th Grade Breakfast and Promotion Ceremony at BMS	9:30am -11:30am

8th Grade Dance Details:

All 8th grade students are invited to our 8th grade Sneaker Ball Dance. This event will be hosted at Brogden Middle School on Saturday evening, June 1st from 5pm-8pm.. We're encouraging all 8th graders to dress their best (semi formal) with their flyest sneakers. 8th graders will enjoy a beautiful night filled with music, food and social time with their classmates. ***Students MUST take all of their EOGs to attend the Ball and NO OUTSIDE GUESTS MAY ATTEND.*** Students may purchase tickets online using the site: <https://osp.osmsinc.com/DurhamNC/>>Click Middle School >Click Brogden Middle > Click Sneaker Ball >Add to Cart >Pay

Promotion Ceremony Rehearsal and Ice Cream Social Details:

All 8th grade students will rehearse the ceremony processional, promotion program, seating placement, speeches and ceremony recessional on Wednesday, June 5th. Rehearsal will take place in the BMS auditorium. Following promotion rehearsal, 8th grade students will have an ice cream social in the cafeteria with music

8th Grade Promotion Ceremony Details:

At the 8th Grade Promotion Assembly on Thursday, June 6th, 8th grade students will receive a promotion certificate with their name printed on it. Special awards will also be presented by the homeroom teachers and the school principal. The 8th grade promotion and awards ceremony for all 8th grader students will be held in our school auditorium starting at 9:30am. This is a promotion ceremony to commemorate 8th grade students "moving on" to the 9th grade (high school). This is **NOT** a graduation/commencement ceremony, therefore **8th grade students' names will not be called to walk across a stage.**

- **Promotion Ceremony Dress Code:**

We ask that all 8th grade students who attend the ceremony dress in business casual or casual attire. This includes (but not limited to) dress pants, khakis, collared shirts, polo shirts, dress or skirt and comfortable casual shoes. All



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of which should adhere to the school dress code. Hats, hoodies, head scarves, durags are NOT allowed to be worn by students during the ceremony.

- **Promotion Ceremony Entry:**

Each 8th grader will receive **two tickets** for the ceremony **by June 5th**. Each ticket represents entry for one person, no matter the age. We are limiting entry due to limited seating. Balloons, signs, or noise making devices will not be allowed inside the auditorium so that we can respect everyone's right to be seen and heard during their moment in the spotlight.

- **Promotion Dismissal/Student Sign Out:**

We understand this is a special occasion for all, therefore you may want to take your 8th grader home following the ceremony. In an effort to streamline the process of signing out students after the 8th Grade Promotion/Awards Ceremony, we are requesting that parents/guardians inform the school of their intent prior to the day of the ceremony using the attached and **linked form**. If this form is not submitted or returned but you decide to sign your student out on the day of the ceremony, please be aware that the process will be very time-consuming.

- **Promotion Ceremony Live Stream:**

Due to the limited number of people that will be allowed in the auditorium, we will be live streaming the 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony on June 6th starting at 9:15am. The live streaming link can be found on our school's website: <https://www.dpsnc.net/Brogden> under Quick Links and **Students>8th grade>Promotion Live Stream**.

- **Promotion Reminders:**

Students MUST take all of their EOGs to attend promotion events. Students must not have their phones or airpods in use during the ceremony.



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8th Grade Student Behavior Expectations:

In order for 8th grade students to participate in all 8th-grade promotion festivities, it is required that they maintain behavioral expectations according to the DPS Code of Conduct throughout the end of the school year.

Effective **May 1, 2024**, any policy violations resulting in an office discipline referral including but not limited to major or minor referrals or silent lunch will result in the loss of their privileges to attend one or more of our celebrations. Please see below for details:

These expectations will be enforced starting May 1, 2024

Violations of Behavioral Expectations	Result in
First infraction	A warning will be issued to the student by teachers and/or administration.
Second infraction	The student will lose the opportunity to attend the 8th Grade Sneaker Ball.
Third infraction	The student will lose the opportunity to attend the Ice Cream Party.
Fourth infraction	The student will lose the opportunity to attend the Promotion Ceremony Rehearsal.
Fifth infraction	The student will lose the opportunity to attend the Promotion Ceremony. <i>Parents/guardians may pick up the promotion certificate on June 7, 2023 from 1:00PM-3:30PM. Otherwise, it will be mailed to the address on file.</i>

Additional Information Regarding Behavioral Expectations:

Students and families, please refer to our Durham Public Schools Handbook and Brogden Student Expectations for a complete list of behavioral expectations from students. Example behaviors that may lead to a referral, silent lunch, and/or write up may include, but aren't limited to: *Disrespect to adults or peers, Bullying/Harassment, Fighting/physical aggression, Non-compliance and/or behavior that is disruptive to the classroom setting.*

Please note that losing privileges isn't the only consequence students may receive for conduct violations ie: students may also receive an **Out of School Suspension** or assigned to RPC (restorative practices center-this is the same as an **In-School Suspension.**)

Students, please be mindful of your behavior and be on your best behavior from now through the end of the school year so that you and your family can enjoy every celebratory opportunity available to you. Remember this is the end of middle school-you are about to transition to HIGH SCHOOL. We want each of our 8th graders to be able to attend all promotion events.

Families, we are thankful for your continued support. It has been a privilege to serve and share this school year with your child. We are looking forward to celebrating their accomplishments with you. Thank you, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lauren A. Eaton
Brogden Middle School
8th grade Assistant Principal
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