



BROWNELL TALBOT PARENTS ASSOCIATION

EVERY PARENT IS A MEMBER

October 16, 2025

Meeting Minutes

8:00 AM

WORTHINGTON DINING HALL

WELCOME AND COLLEGE COUNSELING

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 am by Co-President Roberta.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Trunk or Treat – October 24, 2025 5:30-7:30 PM
- Grandparents Day – October 27th 8-9:45 AM
- Scholastic Book Fair - October 27th 9:45 AM – 5 PM
- Halloween Parties – October 31 8:15 AM start time
 - Early years -5th Grade in the Scott Gym
- BTNVO – November 14, 2025 6:30-9:30PM
 - Purchase single tickets (\$50; increases to \$60) or table of 8 (\$380-\$460)
- Save the Date for Out of this World Gala – May 9th

VOLUNTEER AND GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Faculty and Staff Birthdays
- BT Fund Gingerbread for BT December 11
 - Go to brownell.edu/give
 - 100% faculty and staff participation
- Booster Club Support
 - Become a member to receive free admission to activities. Look for volunteer opportunities by clicking through the BT Buzz and in the monthly Booster newsletter.
 - Concessions
 - Next Meeting: October 21 Fairfield Room, 8:00 am

COLLEGE COUNSELING PROGRAM

- Staff
 - Brianna Vandervorst – Director of College Counseling Program
 - Christopher Slocombe – Assistant Director of College Counseling Program
- Approach
 - American School Counselors Association (ASCA)
 - National Standards and help through academics, social, emotional, an college prep

- Guidelines for a comprehensive school counseling program
- Mindsets & Behaviors selected for each course
- Finding your best fit
- Team teaching and individualized guidance/planning
- EY-8th Grade
 - Starts early – Katie Tessen
 - Finding what their strengths are and how are they a learners
 - LS Self and social awareness–knowing self and own strength; building foundation – personality traits, self-confidence, role models, values
 - MS Career exploration (education quest), preparation for HS transition, 8th grade campus visit to a small private university
- 9th Grade – transition to upper school
 - Connection within upper school
 - Personal interests, strengths and talents (MI Advantage inventory)
 - Academic reflection and transcript review
 - Resume building: importance of extracurricular and community involvement
 - College research and exploration process (Scoir)
 - PreACT (fall of 9th grade)
- 10th Grade – Majors and Courses
 - Personal strengths, interests, and abilities (Gallup Strengthsfinder)
 - Majors and career exploration (career speaker series, career shadow)
 - College research and exploration process Standardized tests and standardized test preparation (PSAT in Fall, PreACT in spring)
 - College visit field trip – large public
 - 45 minutes every week the second semester
- 11th Grade – Refining College Lists
 - Pathways after high school
 - Significant factors–Research and build the college List (Scoir, College Kickstart)
 - College application essay writing
 - Résumé writing Common Application, online applications, and supplemental applications
 - College visit field trip
 - Family meetings
 - 80 minutes every week for the whole year
- 12th Grade – Supported Decision Making
 - College application management and organization
 - One-on-one meetings with counselor
 - 80 minutes every week
 - Application submission, tracking
 - College/postsecondary choice
 - Adulting 101
 - Spring – dorm room cooking, self defense

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

- AI use – Job making decision and counseling support
 - Using it for essay writing
- On average how many scholarships do students apply for?
 - \$70-80,000 per kid
 - Depends on how long their lists are
 - College specific and outside of college funding opportunities
- Athletic Scholarships
 - Partner with athletic department for divisions specific requirements
- Grab a sign for securing kindergarten or 9th grade spot signs for Kim Schinzel
 - Decision made by early December