

Educate  
Equip  
Excel

# Brook Advocate

## All Things Positive

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"It's not what you are  
that holds you back —  
it's what you think you're  
not."

~ Denis Waitley

## Fun in Advisory For students and teachers

As Clear Brook moves into its second year of Smaller Learning Communities we are beginning to see a positive change.

The fuel for some of the positive changes are coming from a new attitude toward Summit (also known as advisory) activities. For the

*Mrs. Smith's advisory has fun with a group activity*



first year, students worked in written workbooks in advisory. However, this year there are no workbooks for the students.



*Mrs. Rush's advisory gets to know each other with a name game*

Students and teachers are being encouraged to do more fun activities. Summit should be fun for students



*Mrs. Phillips's advisory simulates cliques with a secret handshake*

and teachers – a short stress relief break in their intense academic day. Many advisories have taken this encouragement to heart.

In Mrs. Cardona's advisory, the students have had fun playing Pictionary, Hangman, and Taboo (not pictured).

## Astros Tickets for Email Addresses

Each of our SLC's will be publishing a monthly newsletter about activities occurring in their SLC. In order to keep students and parents in our communities informed we needed to gather email addresses.

Mrs. Alma Block and her husband graciously donated a pair of Astros (bullpen

tickets to the cause.

Each advisory teacher who turned in their list of email addresses was entered into a drawing for the tickets.

On August 18<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Block drew Coach Arledge as the winner of the tickets.

Congratulations, Coach!



Coach Arledge with Mrs. Block



## Externships – Teachers are Learners Too

For a week in the summer, three brave teachers worked in a job setting very different from teaching. The purpose of these “externships” — as they are called — is to glean knowledge that the teachers could bring back to the classroom and apply to their subject matter. Each teacher had to write two lesson plans incorporating these new skills into their classes.

Ms. Hunt spent some time learning from Rudy Munoz and other gentlemen from Fire Station Number 72 in Clear Lake City. It was very different than she expected. “The experience was very

informative about the career of a firefighter.” She noticed that “[t]he personality of the firemen is much like that of a teacher. They care about people and enjoy working [with] them...” Ms. Hunt was impressed with the camaraderie the firemen had developed and their continual learning process. She appreciates her externship and encourages students to find out more about this “remarkable team”.

Mrs. Spozio and Mr. Haarhoff spent a week with Dr. O’Neil, an orthopedic surgeon. Mrs. Spozio says, “Many of his patients have sports injuries and he is a very well-known and active member of our community. I was able

to experience his daily routine which includes, office visits, diagnosis, follow-up visits reviewing X-rays and surgeries.” She hopes to incorporate this “awesome experience” into her class.

Mr. Haarhoff was more interested in the surgeries: “It was a fascinating experience especially considering the fact that I was able to watch several surgeries from the end of the operating table — total knee replacements, knee scope surgery, and a bunyan surgery on the foot.”

We’re glad that these teachers had a great new experience!

*Ms. Hunt enjoys her week at Station 72 with Rudy Munoz and the other station team members. She hopes to bring the Hazmat team to Brook for a visit with her Pre-AP chemistry classes.*



## New Crew Joins Brook Family

We want to extend a warm welcome to all of our new teachers. We have over forty new teachers this year.

While being new to a school brings challenges it also brings a flurry of new ideas and energy. We are looking forward to the opportunity of getting to know the new folks and welcome them to the Clear Brook Family.

We will have a Random Spotlight section each month so that we get to know our many wonderful teachers.

Random Spotlight



Sheradon Staelin is a new teacher for the medical community. She's a first year teacher - instructing Spanish I and II - who has many interests when not teaching: tennis, sports, pageants, friends, being with her family, reading, working out, and watching movies and TV.



Leatrice Devault is a chemistry and ChemCom teacher in the school of Engineering.

In her free time, she enjoys reading, playing with her son, going out to eat, talking on the phone, going to church, and helping others.