

School Profile 2008-2009



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Brookfield High School

Grades 9 to 12 (semestered)



824 Brookfield Rd.
Ottawa, Ontario
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School hours:
9:05 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

www.brookfieldhs.ocdsb.ca

Principal
Anne Gillespie

Vice Principals
Steve Collins
Jane Alexander

Office Administrator
Cathy Babcock

Chief Custodian
Gordon Martelock

School Council Chair
David Hogberg

Superintendent of Instruction
Neil Yorke-Slader

School Trustee
Riley Brockington

Chair of the Board
Lynn Scott

*Director of Education/
Secretary of the Board*
Lyll Thomson

General Board Information
(613) 721-1820

www.ocdsb.ca

Our School

- Opened in 1962, Brookfield High School is located on Brookfield Road just off the Airport Parkway. Brookfield is a semestered composite high school, offering a safe, caring environment to over 780 students, representing many languages and over 70 countries. We are a school that has embraced Character Education and believe that we are raising future citizens who are well equipped academically and socially to be global citizens. Brookfield offers a French Immersion Program leading to OCDSB French Immersion and Extended French Certificates. Our Music Department is known throughout the city for its excellence and our World Voice Choir has performed at many high profile functions, including the world famous RCMP Musical Ride. Our school is home to a strong English as a Second Language programme and a highly respected Special Education Department featuring a system wide Learning Disabilities unit and an Autism Spectrum Disorder class. This past year students wrote Advanced Placement exams in Chemistry, English, French, German and Spanish. International language courses are also available at various levels in Arabic, Spanish and German. Our commitment to academic achievement and a safe and secure learning environment for all students is reflected in our high expectations of all our students and staff.
- We award the Citizenship Crest for outstanding participation in school activities, and the Brookfield "B" for athletic participation.

Our Students

- Students come to Brookfield High School from our community schools and from other areas for special programs. Our main feeder schools include Fielding Drive Public School and Carleton Heights Public School.
- We have a long tradition of strong student leadership at Brookfield H.S. More than 80% of our students come from within the community and they are becoming well known for their humanitarian efforts for those less fortunate than they are. Brookfield is proud of its record in academics, athletics, the arts and its enthusiastic, positive students.
- Over the past 3 years our graduates have earned over \$900,000 in scholarships.
- Many of our graduating students proceed to university or college with 42% of the graduates in 2008 achieving Ontario Scholar level, and 15% qualifying for an Immersion Certificate. June 2008 25% of our students earned scholarships worth over \$365,000.

Our Staff

- At Brookfield, we have a highly experienced and committed staff dedicated to providing the best possible education to each student in a friendly environment. There are 63 teaching staff, supported by 8 Educational Assistants and 1 administrative and support personnel. Over 90% of our teachers have taken supplementary courses to earn additional qualifications in their subject areas. Many of the staff live in our community and are active in community organizations. We aim for continuous professional development by encouraging staff to attend conferences and workshops. Educational reading is stressed at all department meetings and staff meetings.

Educating for success – Inspiring learning and building citizenship

Our Community

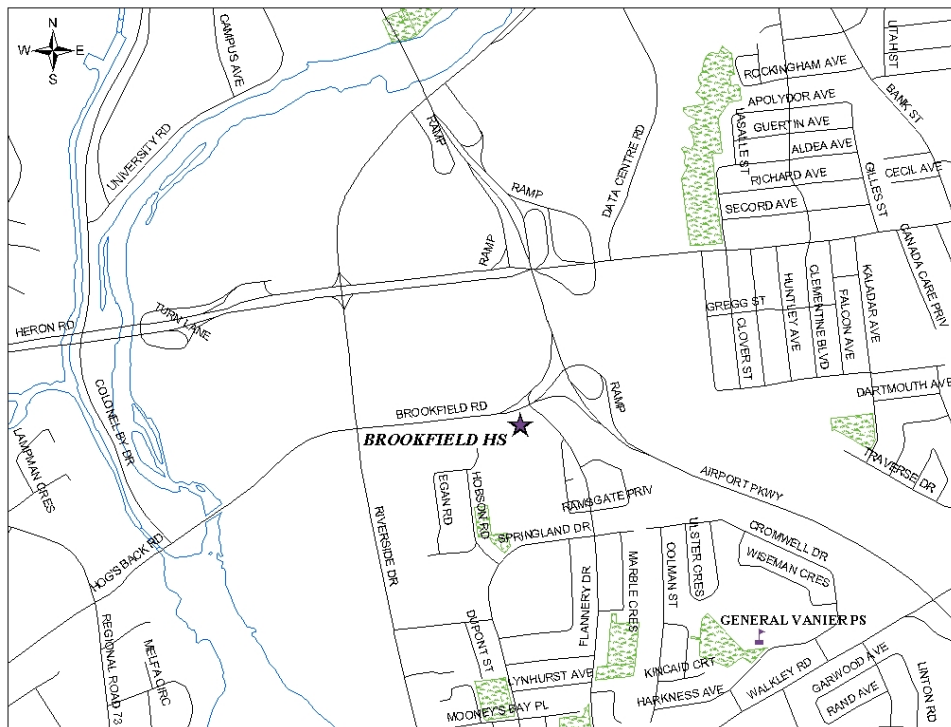
Parents and Community

- The Brookfield School Council is a forum for regular dialogue among Brookfield parents, the principal, and representatives of the staff, Students' Council, and the neighbouring community. Elected parent representatives are committed to participate for 2008-2009; the meetings (first Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. in the school library) are open to anyone and are warm and inviting. In addition to current or planned operations at the school itself, School Council responds to Board or Ministry of Education plans or changes that affect our students, or will affect students in the future.



Mission Statement

- School colours: blue/white/red
- School Motto: Progrediamur – Let us go forward together
- Team Name: Blues



Programs and Services

Academic Programs

- We offer a complete academic program leading to a full range of opportunities for post-secondary education. Students enrolled in French Immersion are able to complete the requirements for the Immersion Certificate. We offer an extensive Co-operative Education Program which allows Brookfield students to gain experience in a variety of areas in the work place. Over the past five years, 189 of our students have been involved in the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP). Our Arts programs are well-established, culminating with Grade 12 level credits in Drama, Visual Arts and Music.
- This past year students wrote Advanced Placement exams in Chemistry, English, French, German and Spanish with great success.

Classroom Organization

Brookfield High School is a grade 9 to 12 community school. Brookfield students are organized into grade-specific forms as follows:

- Grade 9: 8 classes
- Grade 10: 8 classes
- Grade 11: 9 classes
- Grade 12: 9 classes

Special Education and ESL Programs

- We are fortunate to have a team of experienced teachers and nine Educational Assistants attached to our Special Education department. Resource support and educational assessments are provided by our Special Education Resource Teachers. Through our Special Education Department, students receive remedial support and/or credit courses in Learning Strategies, as identified through an IPRC or IEP. Our school is home to a system Learning Disabilities Unit which provides an 8:1 student/teacher ratio and an Autism Spectrum Disorder class.
- We offer a full range of English as a Second Language courses to our student population new to Canada with some sheltered courses at the junior level. We are very proud of the success many of our ESL students have enjoyed and the addition of many International Students who attend our school.

Facilities and Resources

- Brookfield has 57 regular teaching classrooms and 5 special education classrooms. In addition, we have 6 science labs, 5 PC computer labs, 18 notebook computers with wireless connections, 2 technical labs (1 Technological Design and 1 Communications Technology lab), a music room, a visual arts room, 2 drama rooms, a cooking lab, 3 gym areas, a well equipped wood shop and a weight room. The large gym has a bleacher section. We also have an auditorium that seats 746, as well as a cafeteria. Featuring over 40,000 books, the library holds approximately 200 students at small tables and study carrels and includes a seminar room. Our library offers 24 internet terminals and holds a partnership with Carleton University which allows Brookfield students access to the university library collection.

Safe Schools Initiatives

- Respect is the basic principle by which we operate at Brookfield. The students must respect each other, the staff, premises and property; in return, students receive respect from all members of the staff, both academic and non-academic. This ensures the rights of all students to study and learn in a safe environment. Brookfield High School's Code of Behaviour and Dress Code helps students develop fully as responsible, productive members of society so that they will think clearly and act wisely. Brookfield has developed a 3-level Emergency Response Plan which reflects the OCDSB Safe School Policies in our unique local setting.
- Our Character Education committee, with student and staff input, has written a school pledge with emphasis on respect, responsibility, perseverance, acceptance, appreciation, fairness, co-operation, optimism, empathy and integrity.

Clubs and Activities

- Co-curricular activities in academics, athletics, and the arts contribute to developing well-balanced graduates who are positioned to compete in post-secondary educational institutions and the world of work. With the help of our staff and community coaches, we are able to offer a wide range of teams for both male and female student athletics (over 30 teams each year). An active Athletic Association organizes a lunch-hour intramural sports program and contributes to maintaining school spirit. The Students' Council ensures student involvement in a variety of activities, including spirit activities, dances, and assemblies. Student organizations and clubs such as the Multicultural Club, the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund – Brookfield Chapter; EarthCare environmental team; our Peer Mediators; the Space Science Club, the Improv Team and Tech Crew thrive, and our staff is always willing to respond to new requests.
- Our students and staff have annually supported such causes as the Terry Fox Run, the United Way and "The Long Walk to Freedom" supporting the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund.
- Peer Tutoring and Mediation programs encourage students to become actively involved in the life of the school.

Achievement and School Improvement Planning

Measures of Student Achievement and Success

- Brookfield High School follows the guidelines set out in the OCDSB Policy and Procedures for Student Evaluation, available on the Board's web site (www.ocdsb.ca).
- All students participate in District-wide evaluation projects in 3U and 3M Mathematics and 4U and 4C English.
- Our students continue to achieve on the local and national scene in a wide variety of academic, artistic, and athletic endeavours.

Our graduating class of 2008 consisted of:

- 15% earning a Bilingual Certificate
- 42% being Ontario Scholars (80% or more in Grade 12 U/M subjects)
- 9% winning Silver Medals (90% or more in Grade 12 U/M subjects)
- In June 2008, 25% of our graduates garnered over \$365,000 in a wide array of scholarships



School Improvement Plans and Initiatives

- Brookfield's major initiatives for 2008-09 focus on three areas: Literacy, Numeracy and grade 8 to 9 transition. In the area of Literacy and Numeracy, we continue to identify student needs through analysis of system-wide examinations, to develop and strengthen links with our feeder schools, and to provide OSSLT preparation and remedial activities for our students. We are also continuing to offer the Ontario Literacy Course with exceptional results. We implemented a school-wide reading program in September 2002 to improve literacy and have doubled our Brookfield Reads time to 40 minutes a week. This past year we saw an improvement in our OSSLT scores. Our Student Success Teacher is actively involved with helping our students through Credit Recovery and Credit Rescue opportunities and our teachers voluntarily staff the Homework Center after school four days a week.
- In the area of grade 8 to 9 transitions we have initiated a LINK program that begins working with the new students in late August. Specially selected senior students, under the close supervision of three staff members, work in small groups of 10. Throughout the year activities are planned and academic follow-ups occur. Character Education is a commitment of the entire staff and our LINK program has adopted it as their theme with senior students being key role models. Our Brookfield Pledge highlighting ten character traits form the basis of activities and initiatives
- Academic enrichment opportunities are provided through participation in regional, provincial and Canada-wide competitions in math, science, business, computer studies, public speaking contests in English, French and Spanish, mini-enrichment courses, and debating competitions. We are constantly seeking new and innovative ways to expand and enrich the school life of our students, and are always open to suggestions from our student population, our parent community through our School Council, and the community at large. Brookfield is a positive, caring school environment, and we are all committed to its continued excellence and success.
- Brookfield actively seeks volunteer involvement through the Ottawa Centre for Research and Innovation.

Leadership Recognition

"Leadership in the OCDSB is the demonstration of personal initiative to achieve a positive outcome."

Students:

- As representatives of the student population, our Student Council provides input for our school-wide events and fundraising for the community. This past year our students and staff have raised over \$6000 for the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund in support of programs for children in South Africa. Closer to home they have been involved with the annual collection of canned goods to fill Christmas food hampers for the needy in our immediate community, United Way pancake breakfasts, Terry Fox runs and Ottawa Hospital runs.
- Our World Voices Choir has been instrumental in establishing our school as an impassioned place with students being part of a global community. Through the recent release of their second CD this group has become known throughout the province for using their voices as a means to educate young people and adults alike. They have performed for dignitaries, the Governor General, Mr. Stephen Lewis, to name only a few. They are a much sought after group performing at Parliament Hill, several CIDA events, United Way launches, major conferences and on CBC television and radio. Other active groups at Brookfield include our Multicultural Club, Muslim Association, Christian Youth Association, Brookfield Ambassadors, to name only a few. Our music department was recognized this past year with our Sr. Concert Band earning silver medal standing and our Sr. Jazz Band earning gold medal standing at the Kiwanis National Music Festival. This year our Music Department has been awarded an CARAS (Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences) MusicAid grant worth \$10,000 to purchase new musical instruments.
- Every year at Brookfield, the Century Club celebrates academic excellence by honouring each grade level's top twenty-five students. The Century Club banquet held in May, features a guest speaker and includes student winners, parents, teachers, and leaders in academics, business, and politics. The fall Awards ceremony is a celebration of excellence for the past year.
- In addition to informal recognition on a regular basis, we also acknowledge student contributions in our classrooms, school announcements, newsletters, assemblies, our principal's report to school council, and end-of-year awards ceremonies. As well, we recognize student leadership by incorporating their suggestions into our planning.

Staff:

- For the past two years our school has been the recipient of a Hewlett-Packard Technology grant totally over \$100,000 in new equipment and professional development. Brookfield was the only Canadian school to receive these grants. This was the result of a multi-departmental proposal for a technology integration project.
- Our staff members have a wealth of professional qualifications including Bachelors and Masters degrees in Arts, Fine Arts, Physical Education and Sciences, as well as additional qualifications in Special Education, English as a Second Language, Music, Visual Arts, Guidance, and Computers in Education. Many of our teachers come with first-hand experience of careers outside of teaching ranging from cartographers to bankers, geologist to mine engineers. 70% of our staff has been at Brookfield between 4 to 10 years with over 25% having 20 years or more of teaching experience. As a staff, we are committed to being part of an active professional learning community. We emphasize that we are daily learners and are encouraged to attend and present workshops. We recognize staff leadership via personal interactions with one another, letters of thanks, school announcements, school newsletters, assemblies, performance appraisals, and our principal's report to school council.
- The George Lucas Education Foundation and ISTE, the International Society for Technology in Education, have recognized our school as leaders in the field of integrating technology into our teaching practices. Our school was the first school outside of the United States to be featured in a film about our successes in this area as well as highlighting our World Voices Choir and our character education initiatives.
- Our choir Director recently received a special Arts Recognition Award for her inspirational work combining music education and global awareness.
- A member of our Science Department was awarded the Capital Educators Award for Excellence.

Parents/Guardians/Volunteers:

- Brookfield enjoys a very positive relationship with our School Council. They provide timely, constructive input to the yearly running of our school. They are always well represented at our many evening events and are active participants in our graduation and awards ceremonies. Brookfield's School Council is an inviting group of individuals who actively seek new membership from the parents and guardians of our students. They are committed to encouraging more parents to attend their meetings. As invaluable partners, we thank our parents, guardians and volunteers on an on-going basis, and look for opportunities to acknowledge them such as school announcements, our principal's report to school council and school newsletters.

Community:

- We encourage our community to be involved in our school with representation on our school council. Our Iftar dinner during Ramadan is well attended by many in our community. At our Century Club dinner we ask a prominent member of the community to share a few words with our students. Partnerships with local retailers have made donations for many of our student activities and we continue to seek these partnerships. Our Hewlett-Packard grants are valued at \$100,000 and have been a wonderful impetus for students and staff to involve technology in their teaching and learning. Deloitte Inc, 3 Vista Corporation and the Education Foundation Fund have all supported us with our Literacy/Character Education Projects. The Canadian Academy of Arts and Sciences have supported our Music Department with a \$10,000 grant to purchase new band instruments.

Results of EQAO Grade 9 Assessment

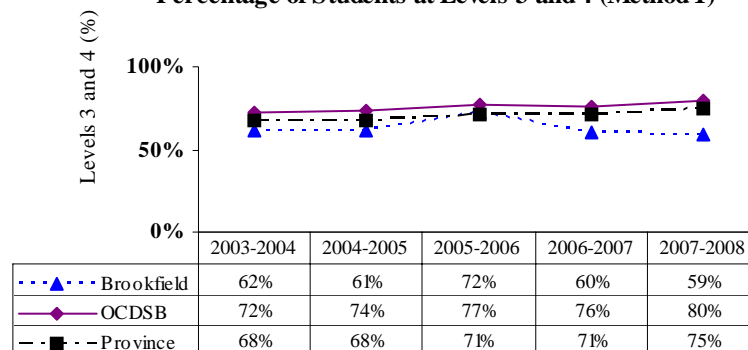
Each year, students participate in the province-wide assessment of mathematics. This assessment by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) is based on the Ontario Curriculum and is one way in which student achievement is measured. It is given at the end of the academic and applied courses in January and/or June, depending on whether or not a school is semestered. Results from these assessments should be viewed with caution since the achievement of a few students, particularly in small schools, can have a large impact on overall results. Further, it is important to view student achievement in the context of other available information, some of which is contained in this profile.

The following table describes grade 9 students in this school for 2007-2008 testing:

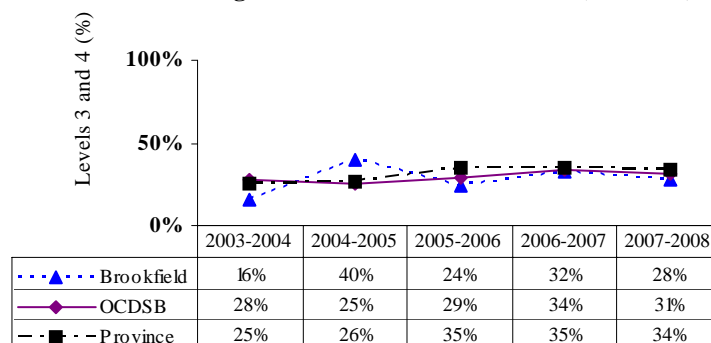
	Number of Students	Exempt/ No data*	Receiving Special Education support (excluding gifted)	ESL/ ELD	Only/mostly speak language other than English at home	Speaks as often in English as another language at home
Academic	106	1%	9%	7%	24%	18%
Applied	67	7%	30%	16%	20%	25%

Results for *all grade 9* students in this school, compared to those for the district and province, are presented below. More detailed information about student performance on these assessments can be found at www.eqao.com.

**Grade 9 Academic Mathematics:
Percentage of Students at Levels 3 and 4 (Method 1)**



**Grade 9 Applied Mathematics:
Percentage of Students at Levels 3 and 4 (Method 1)**



Brookfield HS

* EQAO has combined "exempt" and "no data" categories for grade 9 assessment.

Results of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

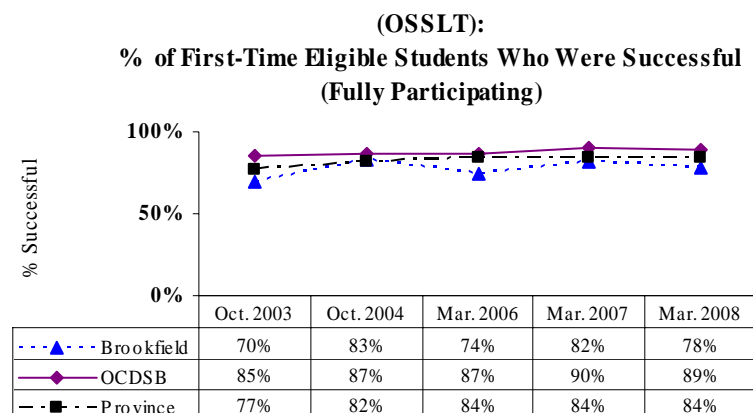
Each year, students participate in the Ministry mandated Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). This assessment by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) is given to Grade 10 students to determine if they can successfully demonstrate the reading and writing skills that apply to all subject areas in the provincial curriculum up to the end of Grade 9. Receiving a secondary school diploma depends on passing the OSSLT – i.e., this is a “credentialling test”. Exemptions and deferrals are given only under certain circumstances and in accordance with policies and procedures established by EQAO. Students who are not successful on the test are able to attempt it again in a future administration, or enroll in the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC).

EQAO reports results only in terms of whether or not a student passed/was successful on the test, rather than levels of student performance.

The following table describes the students in this school who were eligible to write this test for the first time in 2007-2008:

	Number of first-time eligible students	% Deferred	% Absent	Receiving Special Education support (excluding gifted)	English Language Learners	Only/mostly speak language other than English at home	Speaks as often in English as another language at home
Brookfield HS	199	6%	4%	22%	14%	14%	27%

Results for *first-time eligible students who fully participated* in the testing (i.e., not deferred or absent) compared to those for the district and province, are presented below. More detailed information about student performance on this assessment can be found at www.eqao.com.



Next Steps

- Student achievement will be improved and monitored through the Student Success initiative, providing supports to students across the District, and at the school level supported by the school literacy team.
- Students who are not successful on the OSSLT have been, and will continue to be, provided with appropriate remedial help. Such remediation will be guided by individual student diagnostic feedback provided by EQAO. Each school will continue with its own school improvement plans concerning literacy.
- Students who have been unsuccessful on the OSSLT may obtain their literacy graduation requirement by successfully completing the OSSLC (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course).
- The District and schools will continue to provide a variety of strategies to assist in supporting students, including:
 - workshops and resources for grades 7, 8, and 9 teachers to help students with low literacy skills;
 - school-based preparation for students taking the OSSLT; and
 - workshops for teachers to promote best practices literacy instruction.

Results of District-wide Assessments

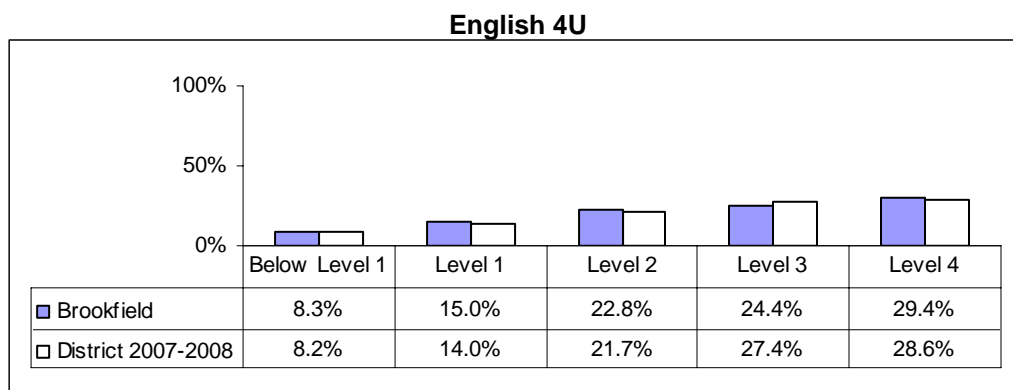
In 2007-2008, all schools fully participated in testing for the ENG4U, ENG4C, MPM2D and MPM2P District-wide evaluation projects.

These projects aim to create consistent evaluation of student performance by providing:

- a common examination;
- a detailed marking scheme for the examination;
- conference marking;
- exemplar booklets to show students and teachers the criteria for, and examples of, successful performance;
- workshops for teachers; and
- reports of school and Board results.

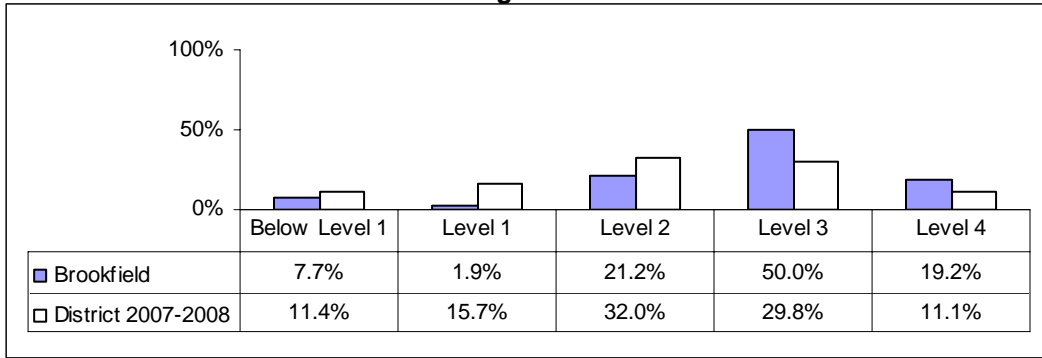
Heads of English and Mathematics would be pleased to discuss examination preparation, procedures, and marking with those who are interested. Please contact the school for further information.

Students in semestered schools write the exams at the end of each semester in which they took the course. For reporting purposes, results for the January and June exams have been combined in the charts below.



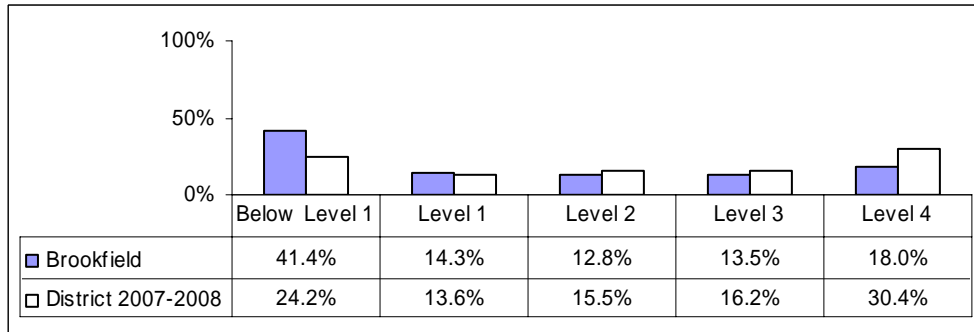
In 2007-2008, 180 students took the exam at this school and 3847 for the District.

English 4C



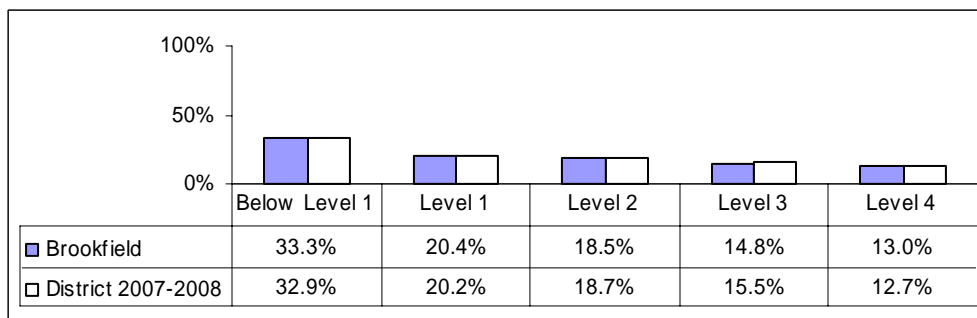
In 2007-2008, 52 students took the exam at this school and 1420 for the District.

Mathematics MPM2D



In 2007-2008, 133 students took the exam at this school and 3643 for the District.

Mathematics MPM2P



In 2007-2008, 54 students took the exam at this school and 1430 for the District.