



August 29, 2019

Dear Families, Parents and Friends:

Welcome! We are very excited that your child will be joining us this coming fall which will be filled with fun, social growth, friendship, respect and lots of learning new things! Much planning, construction and hard work has gone into preparing for a successful school year. September marks the beginning of your child's high school years. Please join us for **Freshmen Parent Night** on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at 5:30 PM in the Cafeteria. Please enter by the cafeteria as the main entrance is closed during our final stages of the building renovation.

We have a half day of events planned for your child on September starting at 7:45 a.m. This is an important day for students to learn to navigate Blue Hills, rotate through their academic schedule, make new friends and get to know their new teachers. Familiarity helps reduce anxiety. Dismissal is 11:00 a.m., and lunch is provided.

Bus transportation is provided at no cost by the Blue Hills Regional School District. Plan to be at the morning bus stop 20 minutes prior to the designated time the first few weeks of school to gauge when the bus will pick up your child. **Note:** the bus stop times may need to be adjusted by the bus company the first few weeks of school, so your patience and flexibility are much appreciated. Bus schedules are located on our website at www.bluehills.org.

In order to assist you, below is a timeline with the list of New Student To-Do's and Timelines:

Get to know us on-line:

Bluehills.org is the go-to information hub for all students. Throughout the summer, visit Bluehills.org for important information (Bus Transportation Schedule, Program of Studies, First Day of School Schedule, Parent Student Handbook, etc.) You can expect more information updated throughout the upcoming school year, so please visit our school website on an ongoing basis.

Important documents are located online.

School Breakfast: Cost is \$1.50 per day.

School Lunch: Cost is \$2.75 per day. The application for Free and Reduced Lunch is available online at www.bluehills.org in August 2019 as well as on opening day, by request. While our cafeteria kitchen is under renovation during most of September prepackaged cold lunches with milk will be available along with snacks, water and other approved vending machine items for sale in our cafeteria.

Family ID

All students will participate in concussion testing and must sign the anti-hazing form. Students interested in participating in sports will sign up online. Fall sports sign up is through September 4, 2019. Go to www.bluehills.org and then click on **Family ID** under the **Athletics** tab.

September 3th - September 30th

The Student Activity fee of \$45.00 is to be paid online by credit card, debit card or e-check. This is an annual fee that must be paid by September 30, 2019. The Student Activity Fee covers school insurance, Skills USA membership, Concussion Baseline Fee and will allow students' to participate in extra-curricular activities, etc. The "Concussion Policy" is a mandatory requirement for all schools in Massachusetts. To pay student fees visit www.myschoolbucks.com. For more information please view our Parent/Student Handbook located on our website at www.bluehills.org.

Freshmen and New Student Orientation: Wednesday, September 4, 2019 from 7:40-11:00 AM (bus and lunch provided). All new tenth and eleventh grade students are encouraged to attend.

Freshmen Parent Night on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at 5:30 PM in the Cafeteria. Come out and meet our student ambassadors, guidance counselors and leadership team.

September 5th-First Day of School:

This will be a great new beginning for your child.

- ✓ The school day starts at 7:48 a.m. and dismissal is at 2:20 p.m. Bus transportation is available. Plan on having your child ready and at the bus stop 15-20 minutes earlier.
- ✓ A yearly physical exam is required of all new students enrolling to Blue Hills Regional. Students must submit a copy of their physical exam report along with immunization records. All physical examination and medical records should have been received in the Admissions Office during the summer and are forwarded to the Health Office. You may upload any new or updated medical records for the school nurse through Family ID <https://www.familyid.com/organizations/blue-hills-regional-technical-school> Should you should have any questions or concerns about your physical and/or medical records, please contact the school nurse, Mrs. Gainey, at 781-828-5800 extension 2230.
- ✓ **Summer Reading and Math Packets** are required to be submitted. The Reading and Math assignments are an important required element of the curriculum for all the 9th grade students, as well as beneficial in preparing your child for enrollment. The results of their completed assignments are factored into their grades of Term I in both English and Math. Parental involvement is a key factor in supporting the academic success of their children. The details of the assignments can be viewed on our website at www.bluehills.org and click on the **Academics drop down menu** and then **Summer Reading** to find the math and reading packets for 9th grade. New 10th graders can find the math, social studies, biology and English packets, too.

Freshmen Mini Exploratory will begin on Friday, September 13th. Your child will be exposed to about half of the programs and then again on Friday, November 1st. There are 17 programs to explore. Please discuss each program with your child. During the first rotation, our Culinary Arts program will not be available due to construction.

Freshmen Exploratory will begin on Monday, September 16th. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately in long pants, closed toed shoes (no flip flops) and have their safety glasses that will be issued to them during the mini exploratory. Students will explore nine different career and technical majors over the first two terms. They will learn about safety, all aspects of the industry and complete hands-on projects and activities. Doing well in ALL exploratory programs is important since the overall grade average can impact final selection. Students are asked to rank their top three choices in January. Students are then placed by interest and grade. Over 80% of students are admitted to their 1st choice and 95% get their 2nd or 3rd choice. Students not placed in a major they are interested in can request to be placed on a wait list for that Career and Technical program. The students may have an opportunity to transfer into that CTE program until the first term of 10th grade if an opening arises.

All Parents and Students:

Please use the Family ID link for:

Mandatory Student Emergency Contact/Information updates which includes Media permissions, Military Recruiter information release/opt out permissions among other parental/guardian consent.

<https://www.familyid.com/blue-hills-regional-technical-school/blue-hills-regional-school-mandatory-for-all-students-sy-2020-student-emergency-contact-information-updates>

Health Office-Annual Health Survey (all students) you may upload any new or updated medical records for the school nurse through Family ID <https://www.familyid.com/blue-hills-regional-technical-school>

Parents/Guardians Athletics Sign off Page (optional students participating in Sports)
<https://www.familyid.com/blue-hills-regional-technical-school>

Parking Permit Application (optional Juniors and Seniors only)
<https://www.familyid.com/organizations/blue-hills-regional-technical-school>

Blue Hills Regional Technical School is rich in tradition. It is our hope that you and your child will experience all that we have to offer. We pride ourselves in being able to offer rigorous academics, state of the art vocational instruction, as well as varied extra-curricular activities and a wide range of sports -- all leading towards your child's career development and success. Please visit our web site

throughout the year for updates. Follow us on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook. Also, feel free to contact the Student Affairs office for assistance or information. Education at Blue Hills is a family affair – welcome to our family!

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Principal's Office at 781-828-5800 x2257 or e-mail Jill Rossetti at jrossetti@bluehills.org.

Sincerely,

Jill Rossetti

Jill Rossetti, Principal