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Introduction

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year at Blue Hills! We are so excited to have everyone back, fully in-person this year. While certain mitigation measures will continue, the work of teaching and learning will be our focus. At our “CORE” are the values of community, opportunity, relevance, and employability. These things drive us and keep us focused on the important work at hand. Our students are the top priority. Thank you for partnering with us and for your support as continue to navigate how to effectively deliver a top-notch career and technical education in the midst of a pandemic. Please take some time to review the information in this reopening procedures document. While not exhaustive, we hope it provides you with some general information and a sense of calm as September 7 approaches.

Calendar & Dates

The calendar for the 2021-2022 school year is available on the Blue Hills website, or by clicking here. Orientation for new students and grade 9 students is Thursday, September 2. The first day of school for all students is Tuesday, September 7.

Covid Health & Safety

Students must:

- Wear a mask. Mask breaks will be allowed throughout the day. Masks must be worn indoors except during mask breaks and during breakfast and lunch. Masks are not required while outside.
- Students will be spaced out at lunch to minimize the number of close contacts at lunchtime. Masks must be worn to lunch, while getting food, and while leaving lunch. While eating, students will be spaced approximately 3 feet apart, with outdoor seating and individual seating available.
- Wash hands regularly and/or sanitize. Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building, in the hallways and in classrooms.
- Before getting on the bus or driving to school, make sure you go through the daily checklist for Covid symptoms - click here.

We have designated areas that are only for individuals demonstrating Covid symptoms. These areas are closed off to all other individuals during the school day and are sanitized after use.

Fire Drills

In any evacuation event, the evacuation takes priority over any Covid-19 restrictions or guidelines. In a fire or fire drill, exit the building as you normally would. When you reach your designated area, students should physically distance as much as possible. Teachers take attendance outside and should bring their class roster with them. Fire drills happen several times each year.

Buses, Drop-Off, and Dismissal

Buses will run as normal this year. Students MUST wear a mask throughout the bus ride. Students who do not wear masks will not be allowed to continue to ride the bus. Bus registration is required for all students who take the bus and must be completed each year; this can be completed on Family ID.
Juniors and seniors may register for a parking pass on Family ID if they drive to school.

Morning arrival and afternoon dismissal are extremely busy in the parking lot. Please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Be patient and safe. With nearly 900 students moving in and out, our lots and driveways get congested. Proceed with caution!
- For both drop-offs and pick-ups, please pull in the EAST parking lot entrance.
- For drop-offs, turn left after entering and pull as far up the driveway toward the main entrance as possible before stopping to let your student out.
- For pick-ups, please turn left into one of three lanes formed by our parking lot. All three will merge into the driveway in front of the gym and cafeteria. This allows us to fit as many cars as possible.
- Do not block thru traffic in any driveway. Cars and buses need to be able to move freely.
- If you know your child is running late after school, please find a parking spot and wait there.
- Do not block the West side driveway - there is no pickup directly in front of the main entrance or the west driveway.

Start of the Day

On a regular school day, students may enter the building at various times. Students who are dropped off or are in need of breakfast must report to the cafeteria. Students arriving via bus or who drive themselves will be allowed in the building at 7:40 a.m. First period begins at 7:48. Late students must sign in to the main office. Every four tardies results in a Saturday detention/suspension.

Attendance

Attendance is taken in each class period, every day. If a student is going to be absent, please call the attendance line as normal to report this (781-828-5800 x 2250). Please refer to the Parent-Student Handbook for additional information.

Schedule

For the 2021-2022 school year, we are returning to our regular 9 period schedule that alternates between X and Y weeks. 8 classes meet per day, dropping one. The bell schedule is on page 16 of the Parent-Student Handbook.

Chromebooks

All upperclassmen should have chromebooks that are working. If they are having issues with a chromebook, please contact IT@bluehills.org.

Freshmen will receive chromebooks during the first few days of school. Prior to receiving a chromebook, parents/students must sign-off on the Parent-Student Handbook and Chromebook Use Agreement on Family ID.

Exploratory

Exploratory will run for the first nine freshmen vocational weeks - each student will spend a week in 9 different career technical programs, as outlined in our Admissions Policy.
Athletics

Fall sports have resumed, and all athletics are scheduled, at this time, to continue fully this year. Please see the Athletics portion of the Blue Hills website or contact Athletic Director Ed Catabia at ecatabia@bluehills.org for more information.

Extracurricular Activities

All extracurricular activities will resume this year.

Lunch

Lunch will be served and provided by our cafeteria. We will have outdoor seating available as well for students. We will distance students as much as possible in the cafeteria, outdoor spaces, and the gymnasium. The state recommendation, which we will be following, is three feet of distance. Tables and desks will be sanitized in between lunches.

All students will be eligible to receive free breakfast and lunch. This is a universal accommodation through the end of the upcoming school year.

Important: Students and families that believe they may be eligible for free/reduced lunch should fill out an application for free and reduced lunch as soon as possible. This information may impact state assistance and benefits for families. The form can be found on the Blue Hills website and should be returned to Cindy Fama (cfama@bluehills.org).

Public Services in Vocational Programs

All public services will resume in vocational programs according to state regulations for each industry and local school procedures.