











# Superintendent's Update

PUBLIC SCHOOLS of BROOKLINE

November 30, 2023

#### **Agenda**

- Community Highlights
- Superintendent's School Visits
- Important Dates
- Spotlight on Excellence



#### The New Driscoll Building Ribbon Cutting



JOIN US FOR THE NEW MICHAEL DRISCOLL SCHOOL RIBBON CUTTING

> Tours at 3:00, 3:30, 4:30 & 5:00 PM Ribbon Cutting Ceremony 4:00 PM

Monday Dec 4th 3pm Michael Driscoll School 705-719 Washington St, Brookline, The Brookline community is invited to the ribbon cutting of the new Driscoll school on **Monday, December 4** at **3pm.** The event will also include tours of the new building.

#### Kindergarten Information Sessions 2024-25

The Office of Registration and Enrollment (ORE) is holding a special virtual Information Session on **Thursday**, **December 14** at **7pm**, for families planning to register their children for Kindergarten in the 2024-25 school year. This event is designed to help guide families through each step of the kindergarten enrollment process and answer questions.

ORE is committed to ensuring that all families have a smooth and successful transition into their first day of kindergarten in Brookline. All families will have multiple opportunities to engage with our staff throughout the registration process and are happy to work to support each family with any specific needs they may have.

A separate session specifically designed for BEEP families will also be held on **Thursday, December 7** at **7pm**.



#### 8th Grade to 9th Grade Transition



We have formed a working group to develop process recommendations and revisions to the 9th-grade course recommendation and selection process. Our goal is to make revisions that interrupt the existing biases in the system and make the experience work better for our students and families. In addition to the work of this group, the district is engaged in a longer process to address fundamental inequities in the transition process so that every student can access the full opportunities that a Brookline education offers.

#### **Virtual Parent Workshop**

The Department of Guidance and Clinical Services has partnered with the Massachusetts Partnerships for Youth (MPY) to hold the virtual parent workshop *Healthy Balance: Screen Time*, on Wednesday, December 6 from 6pm to 7.30pm.

This workshop is designed to provide guardians with the tools and vocabulary needed to help children and adolescents make wise choices about balancing daily screen use while focusing more attention on exercise and nutrition.



#### Meet the Speaker



Cory Mashburn, M.Ed., has over 20 years expertise in the field of prevention services and more than 25 years' experience working with youth and people with disabilities. He has overseen the planning and implementation of prevention programs within communities and schools in the New England Region, including substance use and abuse, bullying, cyber safety, and human rights. In addition, Cory has developed multiple health and wellness curricula in schools across the state of Massachusetts. He holds master's degrees in educational leadership, project management and criminal justice, in addition to his bachelor's degree in recreational management. As the father of two young children, he understands the importance of equipping youth, their parents, and their communities with the knowledge and skills to enable young people to become the best version of themselves.



#### HEALTHY BALANCE: SCREEN TIME

#### Welcome Parents! Save the Date!

Wed., December 6, 2023 6:00-7:30 PM

#### Description

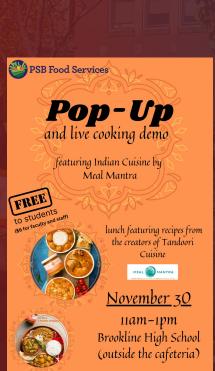
Increasingly, data suggests that exposing youth to large amounts of time in front of screens (TV, computer, tablet, or smartphone) can have negative effects on physical and mental development including issues with memory, attention, and language skills. This workshop is designed to provide the tools and vocabulary needed for children and adolescents to make wise choices about balancing daily screen use while focusing more attention on exercise and nutrition.

Please join us on Zoom



#### **Pop-Up Restaurants at BHS**





The PSB Food Services is excited to bring various pop-up restaurants at the BHS cafeteria, as part of their *I Love Local* campaign. These pop-ups will take place periodically throughout the school year, and will feature local vendors and culturally diverse cuisines. These meals will be free to all students as part of the National School Lunch Program, and will be just \$6 for faculty and staff.

The first pop-up was launched on Monday, November 20 and featured products from *Boston Vegan*, founded by Rachelle Adams, a local business producing plant-based meat alternatives in Newton, MA.

## **BHS Indoor Farm Opening**

On Monday, November 27th, students, staff, and community members gathered in the BHS cafeteria to plant the first seeds in our new BHS Farm. The goal of the indoor BHS Farm is to grow and produce a weekly harvest of hyper local, nutrient dense, organic leafy greens and herbs to be used in the school lunch program salad bar. This also creates new hands-on service opportunities as we begin to recognize the impact that climate change is having on our students and the importance of offering opportunities to grow food sustainably.

This collaborative initiative, sponsored by BHS PTO, the National Education Association, and PSB Food Services, is a core activity to build a culture of sustainability in our food system at BHS, from seed back to soil.

The indoor grow racks are located in the BHS former restaurant 108 across from the cafeteria and creates an opportunity for true Farm-to-Table dining.



## BHS Indoor Farm Opening Thank you Sasha Palmer



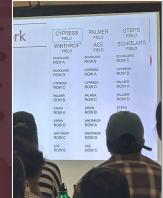
















#### **MIAA Cross Country Championship**





Congratulations to the BHS Boys Cross
Country Team for winning the MIAA D1 Cross
Country Championship, for the second year in a row.

#### Medalists:

- Ben Kasen 7th
- Kailas Ciatto 8th
- Pablo Tejedor Meyers 9th
- Altamo Aschkenasy 13th



## MA Music Educators Association Senior District Music Festival

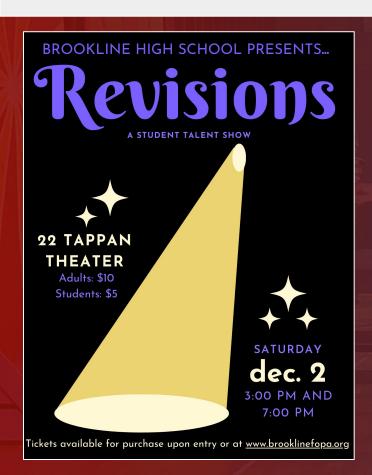
Congratulations to the following Brookline High School students who auditioned for and were accepted into the MMEA Senior District Music Festival.

These students will participate in the Senior District Festival on January 5 and January 6, 2024, along with top high school music students from Eastern Massachusetts and special guest conductors.

	Henry Allen, <i>Trombone</i>	Kyoya Kobayashi, Saxophone
	Shanti Appavoo, <i>Voice</i>	Lil Kuklewicz, Voice
	Ingrid Aumiller, Voice	Anthony Lee, Clarinet
	Ivy Bass, <i>Voice</i>	Kianoush Rahimi, Voice
	Ronni Chang, Violin	Elise Ruberg, Voice
	Antonia Duffield, <i>Voice</i>	Sophia Sharooz, Voice
	Sora Egozy, Clarinet	Noa Suk, <i>Violin</i>
	Ivan Epworth, Voice	Justina Wang, <i>Violin</i>
	Rebecca Gale, Voice	Briana Yang, Viola
	Daphne Jones, Voice	Michael Zhu, Voice
	Diane King, Cello	



#### **BHS Student Talent Show**



The students of Brookline High School will showcase their hidden talents at **Revisions** – the student talent show, on Saturday, December 2, at the Tappan Theater.



## **Superintendent's School Visits**

Recently Completed		
Baker	Friday, November 17	
BEEP	Friday, November 17	
Driscoll	Monday, November 20	
Roland Hayes	Wednesday, November 29	
BHS	Thursday, November 30	
FRR	Thursday, November 30	

Upcoming		
Lawrence	Monday, December 4	
Pierce	Tuesday, December 5	
Roland Hayes	Wednesday, December 6	
Runkle	Wednesday, December 6	
Lincoln	Friday, December 8	
Driscoll	Thursday, December 14	
Baker	Thursday, December 14	



#### **Important Dates**

**December 6** 

K-12 Early Dismissal – Parent Conferences

**December 22** 

**Early Dismissal for Winter Break** 

December 25 - January 1

Winter Break (schools closed)















## Spotlight on Excellence

