



BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL
115 Greenough Street
Brookline, MA 02445

Anthony Meyer
Head of School

617-713-5003
brookline.k12.ma.us

December 5, 2018

Dear Eighth Grade Families:

Greetings from Brookline High School. As December begins, we set our sights on the eighth to ninth grade transition, recognizing that the Class of 2023 enters BHS in September 2019 and that this process happens quickly. While we are nearly ten months away from the 2019-20 school year, we already are thrilled to have you and your students join our vibrant, diverse school community.

As part of this process, we invite you to a series of informational events about our high school academic and student support program, as well as the many opportunities available to your students next year and beyond. We design these transition events to orient you to BHS and to answer many of your questions. Just as your students are preparing for one of life's larger transitional periods, we recognize that families also will experience something new, exciting, and, at times, daunting. These events thus serve as a bridge to help everyone transition to BHS.

As you likely know, construction for our high school expansion project begins this summer. This project requires the demolition of the Tappan wing of the main campus, necessitating the use of Old Lincoln School for the duration of construction. As we finalize plans for the use of Old Lincoln, we are working incredibly hard to make sure students experience a unified high school, including access to BHS's rich course offerings. We also realize that ninth graders must receive strong social/emotional supports as they transition to high school. We are assembling a faculty and staff for OLS that will be uniquely equipped to provide this support. To be clear, our plan is to include Old Lincoln School as part of our larger campus; in practice, this means the majority of our ninth graders will take classes at both OLS and the main campus.

Given that our ninth grade program next year will involve limited travel between Old Lincoln School and the main campus, this year's transition events are particularly important. We are adding further opportunities for you and



your students to hear what we are planning for next year's ninth graders. This includes Electives Night and some smaller, K-8 based OLS information nights within which parents, guardians, and caretakers can hear our planning, ask questions, and offer feedback.

While we encourage you to attend as many events as possible and know you will benefit from them, we also realize how busy life becomes. If you cannot attend every session, do not worry. We will work with PTO leaders at our K-8 schools so that information from these events, and the transition process in general, is shared. We are also creating and will share soon a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document that is specific to the high school's use of Old Lincoln School.

Please review the transition event program and schedule that we have included below. Our faculty, staff, and administration are working incredibly hard on planning for this change and look forward to sharing what we believe will be a powerful balance of a ninth grade cohort experience and connections with the larger BHS community. To this end, we will provide more details about next year's schedule and cohorted travel model in early January.

For now, we look forward to seeing you soon at the eighth grade transition events and sharing all that Brookline High School has to offer. Welcome!

Sincerely,



Anthony Meyer
Head of School



Lisa Gilbert-Smith
Dean of Students

Class of 2023 Transition Events

<p>Monday, Feb. 11 @ 7pm in the BHS Auditorium for parents and guardians</p>	<p>Curriculum Night for English, Social Studies, Science, Math, World Language, Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Career and Technology Education, and Health/Fitness. It is a chance to hear from our leadership team, especially Curriculum Coordinators from each subject area.</p>
<p>Monday Feb. 11 @6pm in the Library for parents and guardians</p>	<p>Overview of Special Education services and programs. This separate and earlier portion of Curriculum Night is for parents and guardians to meet our special education leadership and available staff members. You will learn about the high school's robust continuum of special education programming.</p>
<p>Feb. 7 – Feb. 12 @ each K-8 school for students only</p>	<p>BHS World Language “Road Show” is during the school day. Teachers from languages not offered in K-8s will visit the PSB K-8 schools.</p>
<p>Thursday, Feb.15 @ BHS for students only</p>	<p>Arts at BHS is during the school day. Eighth graders visit BHS and enjoy a presentation of our Performing Arts, Visual Arts, and Career and Technical Education offerings.</p>
<p>Wednesday, Feb. 27 @ BHS at 6pm for parents, guardians and students</p>	<p>BHS Electives Night. This is a complement to Arts at BHS during which families have the opportunity to see our elective spaces in the Unified Arts Building at 6pm, followed at 7pm in the Auditorium by an overview of our Arts and Career and Technical Education offerings.</p>
<p>Tuesday, Mar. 5 @ 7pm in the BHS Auditorium for parents, guardians and <i>especially</i> students</p>	<p>Life at Brookline High School. On this night, the head of school, deans for the class of 2023, and a panel of students will talk and answer questions about life at Brookline High, including the 8th to 9th grade transition.</p>
<p>Monday, Mar. 11 @ 7pm in the BHS Auditorium for parents, guardians and students</p>	<p>Introduction to Athletics: Parents and students are invited to a presentation and Q&A session about our interscholastic athletic program.</p>