

August 2011

Dear Students and Blind Brook High School Families:

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year! Please join me in welcoming Mr. Todd Richard as the new MS/HS Assistant Principal. Mr. Richard brings administrative experience from the Holland Patent School District and is eager to get to know the students and families of the Blind Brook community. We have spent considerable time in preparation of programs to ensure that students will have a rewarding educational experience. In addition, our custodial staff has worked tirelessly to get our building ready for the opening of school on Tuesday, September 6th. You will notice some big improvements to the locker/commons areas that we think students will enjoy.

I would like to emphasize a few areas that will allow for an efficient start of the school year. In an effort to reduce our carbon footprint and paper consumption, we are using our website to communicate with families. Please go to www.blindbrook.org and click on the high school to get important information regarding our school. There you will find not only policies and practices, but forms that will need to be completed and returned to the school. If you do not have internet access, please call the office at 914-937-3600, Ext. 3142, and we will provide hard copies. Thank you for your cooperation.

Guidebook

Please check the High School website to view the current *Family Guidebook*. Please familiarize yourself with the *Family Guidebook* as students and their families are responsible for knowing and adhering to all district policies and procedures.

Attendance

Educational research has shown a strong correlation between attendance and academic progress and achievement. The attendance policy adopted by the Board of Education 2010 stipulates that except in cases of illness, students will not receive credit for a class if they are absent more than 18 times in a year-long course or 9 for a semester course. This policy will be strictly enforced this year.

Student Parking and Drop-off/Pick-up

Parking on campus is a privilege reserved for seniors only. Seniors will be permitted to park on campus once they have returned the required permission form and obtained a parking permit.

Parents dropping off or picking up students are asked to follow the same procedure as last year. Please form a single line into the property and drop-off/pick-up students at the walkway in front of the school. For everyone's safety, please heed the directions of the security staff monitoring the flow of traffic. It is important that all drivers remain extremely focused while driving on campus to avoid accidents and injuries. Please do not use cell phones while driving on our campus.

Parents are not permitted to drop-off/pick-up students at the side loading dock area.

High School Schedules

Schedules were mailed out in early July, and we resolved most scheduling conflicts. We built the schedules around student course requests, so we will not entertain changes to students' courses unless an error has been made or a teacher changes his/her recommendation.

Our counseling team will be available starting August 29th to answer questions regarding student programs. If you wish to discuss a student's program or share a concern about your child, please contact the counselor directly, as she is the most knowledgeable about students' program needs and requirements for graduation and college placement. Please call your counselor for an appointment in advance. The name of your child's guidance counselor appears on the enclosed schedule.

Enclosures

The items listed below are enclosed for your information.

Emergency Information Card
Medication Form
Medical Information Update Form
Schedules
Locker Number
Freshman Orientation Information (9th Grade)
Picture Forms (Grades 9-11)

High School Website

Please refer to the high school website for the information listed below. Please read all the material carefully. Forms that need to be returned should be printed and given to the responsible person by the date stated. **Students will not be able to assume privileges if applicable forms are not returned to the school.**

Acceptable Use Policy Agreement Sheet	Free/Reduced Lunch Application
Parking Information and forms (Gr. 12)	School Lunch Program Information
Parent/Principal Meeting Dates	Parent/School Communication Sheet
Off-Campus Permission Form (Gr. 12)	BBHS Faculty/Telephone Extensions
Community Service Information Letter	Code of Conduct Contract
Family Guidebook	Family Guidebook Contract
Late Arrival/Early Dismissal Permission Forms (Gr.12)	Soup Kitchen Letter

High School Open House

Tuesday, September 27th at 7:00 p.m.

I am looking forward to meeting you and welcoming you back to school soon and to a successful school year. Enjoy the last days of summer!

Sincerely,

Gina M. Healy
Principal

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