



BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL  
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January 8, 2020

Dear Eighth Grade Families:

Greetings from Brookline High School. As the new year begins, we set our sights on the eighth to ninth grade transition, recognizing that the Class of 2024 enters BHS in September 2020 and that this process happens quickly. While we are nearly nine months away from the 2020-21 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 began during the summer of 2019. This project required the demolition of the Tappan wing of the main campus, necessitating the use of Old Lincoln School for the duration of construction. We have used Old Lincoln this year for 9<sup>th</sup> grade and created an atmosphere where students experience a unified high school, including access to BHS's rich course offerings. We realize that ninth graders must receive strong social/emotional supports as they transition to high school. We have assembled a faculty and staff for OLS that is well equipped to provide this support. To be clear, Old Lincoln School is 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 with 9<sup>th</sup> grade students continuing to travel between Old Lincoln School and the main campus.



In preparation for next year we believe the transition events detailed below are particularly important.

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 have also created this [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\) document](#) specific to the high school's use of Old Lincoln School. That along with a wealth of information about the construction and expansion project can be found on [BHS Expansion Project](#) page of the BHS Website.

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.

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



Jenée Uttaro  
Dean of BHS@OLS



# Class of 2024 Transition Events

Monday, Feb. 3 @ 7pm in the BHS Auditorium for parents and guardians	<b>Curriculum Night</b> 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.
Monday Feb. 3 @6pm in the Library for parents and guardians	<b>Overview of Special Education services and programs.</b> 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.
Feb. 6 – Feb. 11 @ each K-8 school for students only	<b>BHS World Language “Road Show”</b> is during the school day. Teachers from languages not offered in K-8s will visit the PSB K-8 schools.
Thursday, Feb.13 @ BHS for students only	<b>Arts at BHS</b> 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.
Thursday, Feb. 13 @ OLS at 6pm for parents and guardians	<b>OLS informational Night.</b> This is a special night for parents to come learn more about how the OLS experience worked this year and what we have learned about this model for 9 <sup>th</sup> grade. It also is a night within which parents, guardians, and caretakers can hear more about our planning, ask questions, and offer feedback.
Tuesday, Mar. 3 @ 7pm in the BHS Auditorium for parents, guardians and <i>especially</i> students	<b>Life at Brookline High School.</b> 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 8 <sup>th</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup> grade transition.
Monday, Mar. 9 @ 7pm in the BHS Auditorium for parents, guardians and students	<b>Introduction to Athletics:</b> Parents and students are invited to a presentation and Q&A session about our interscholastic athletic program.