



# Welcome Parents/Caregivers of the CLASS OF 2027!

2025 - 2026

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NEWSLETTER! → → → →



Hello Warrior Caregivers!

**Welcome Back!**

**or**

**Just Welcome to BHS!**



**Thank you to our  
REPS!**

**Alisa  
Amy  
Jenn**

**[2027reps@bhs-pto.org](mailto:2027reps@bhs-pto.org)**

# We are so excited to be with you!

## **Deans:**

Dean Allen, Dean of Students Grades 9 and 11

Dean Redding, 11th Grade Associate Dean

**Program Leaders:** Dan Bresman (SVWS), Amy Bayer (ACE),  
Lilly O'Flaherty (WH)

**Head of School & Junior Hub Advisor:** Mr. Anthony Meyer

**Assistant Head of School:** Mr. Hal Mason

# Junior year isn't just about Academics!

It's about practicing more skills to support their success!

- Advocating for themselves. The time to practice this is now.
- Emailing teachers themselves. Learn how to address that email.
- Managing time.
- Reaching out for extra help, if needed. Not waiting until IPRs or RCs.
- Monitoring their attendance in the Portal.
- Exploring passions and interests - for themselves, not for college admission.
- Trying to be a leader, even if it's not attached to a title. You don't have to be a captain of your team to be a leader!

# Why is Junior year considered important?

## Beginning of Post-BHS planning

- Career/Job Planning – Career counselor, Ms. Kennedy
- College Planning – Mr. Libenzon, timeline

# JUNIOR YEAR AT BHS

## September

**Focus** on taking a balanced course load and achieving the best possible grades in these classes.

### Register for the PSAT Exam

Students will be notified of the test date and registration process in Homeroom. Online registration is available using links communicated from BHS Guidance.

### Branch out!

Join a club, try out for a sports team, volunteer, get a job, or take on a new hobby. Colleges want to admit students who not only cultivate existing interests, but also explore new interests and gain experiences.

These experiences can help students to think about possible career interests and goals that may be part of a college major, a 2-year certification program, or a career in the trades.

## October

### PSAT Exam

The PSAT is also the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMQST). ([nationalmerit.org](http://nationalmerit.org))

### Careers in trade

Thinking that a trade opportunity after graduation may be your goal? See the BHS career counselor or your guidance counselor for more information.

### Kaplan online training

Prepare for the PSAT by joining online live classes covering a variety of test subjects. ([kaptest.com](http://kaptest.com))

### Attend BHS Financial Aid Night

 (for students and parents/caretakers)

Financial Aid applications are submitted starting Oct 1 of senior year. Junior year is therefore a good time to learn about financing options. ([meffa.org](http://meffa.org) and [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) for additional info, videos and webinars)

## November

### Have fun during Thanksgiving Break!

Try to speak with friends home from college. Talk to family/friends who have careers in areas you may be interested, including technical and trade opportunities.

## December

### PSAT results arrive.

### Start studying for the SATs.

Take some practice exams, sign up for a prep class, download some helpful apps.

- [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org)
- [khanacademy.org](http://khanacademy.org)
- [kaptest.com](http://kaptest.com)

### Meet with your guidance counselor.

Plan whether you'll take the SAT or ACT test. Note that many schools are now test-optional. ([fairtest.org](http://fairtest.org))

You can also stop by the College-Career Center 279 to ask the college counselor questions during drop-in hours posted outside the door.

### Peer Recommendations

#### Podcasts:

- Slate's "Getting In"

#### Books:

- Demystifying the College Process
- Fiske Guide to Colleges
- Insider's Guide to the Colleges
- Colleges That Change Lives
- Princeton Review - Complete Book of Colleges
- The Advocate - College Guide for LGBT Students
- The Gap Year Advantage
- The Insider's Guide to Success in the Two Year Colleges

### SAT or ACT?

There are differences between the two tests which you can research. Meet with your **guidance counselor** or the **BHS college counselor** to discuss your strengths and advantages for each test.



**Websites:**

- CollegeNavigator.gov
- bigfuture.collegeboard.org

**January****Check out Naviance**

Students should start exploring colleges using Naviance ([naviance.com](http://naviance.com)). If a student does not have login information for his/her account, he/she should contact guidance counselor.

**February****Junior Night**

Introduction to post-secondary planning for parents and students.

**ACT Exam**

Students must self-register one month in advance. For more information, visit the ACT website. ([act.org](http://act.org))

**College visits**

Students should take time during February vacation to visit colleges they have been researching for the last few months. (Visits can be set up by visiting the school's website and arranging an official tour.)

**Research for this summer**

Look into summer jobs, internships, camps or any other program that could grow your interests. Contact the BHS career counselor to discuss the options. (Also: [TeenLife.com](http://TeenLife.com))

**Junior guidance seminars begin (2 sessions: end of Feb+early Mar)**

Students will meet with their counselors in a group setting to learn about the college application process. The seminars include information regarding Naviance, post-secondary planning, standardized testing, resume writing, college forms, and teacher recommendations. Gap Year programs and other educational opportunities will also be covered.

**March****SAT Exam**

Students must self-register one month in advance. For more information, visit the College Board website. ([CollegeBoard.org](http://CollegeBoard.org))

**Spring college fairs**

BHS hosts a college fair with over 100 colleges in attendance. Specific information will be available closer to the event.

**SAT Subject Tests**

Only a small number of schools recommend or require 2 or 3 SAT subject tests. Visit each college website for requirements. Go to: [compassprep.com/subject-test-requirements-and-recommendations/](http://compassprep.com/subject-test-requirements-and-recommendations/) for updated information on which colleges require (only 8 in 2017) or recommend (only 14 in 2017) Subject Tests.

**April****Individual post high school planning meetings**

Students meet with their guidance counselors or BHS college counselor to continue the post-secondary planning process.

**Virtual college visits**

Some colleges provide video chats for online visits. CollegeWeekLive provides online events for over 500 colleges. ([collegeweeklive.com](http://collegeweeklive.com))

**ACT Exam**

Students must self-register one month in advance. For more information, visit the ACT website. ([act.org](http://act.org))

**BHS Job/Career Fair**



● May ●



#### SAT OR SAT II Subject Exams

Students must self-register one month in advance.  
For more information, visit the College Board website. ([CollegeBoard.org](http://CollegeBoard.org))



#### AP Exams

Advanced Placement Exams are offered in the beginning of May.  
Visit the AP College Board website ([apstudent.collegeboard.org](http://apstudent.collegeboard.org)) and consult your teacher for more information.



#### Teacher Recommendations

Talk to your counselor about who to ask for a recommendation.  
Typically colleges ask for **two** teacher recommendations: one from a Humanities class and one from a Math/Science class. Teachers will expect specific information from students in September such as a list of colleges, addresses and envelopes.



#### SAT OR SAT II Subject Exams

Students must self-register one month in advance.  
For more information, visit the College Board website. ([CollegeBoard.org](http://CollegeBoard.org))



#### ACT Exam

Students must self-register one month in advance.  
For more information, visit the ACT website. ([act.org](http://act.org))

● June ●

## ● Summertime!



### Make plans!

While summer is a time to relax from school, it's also a great time to stay busy with activities such as jobs, summer camp, internships, volunteering, etc. Colleges prefer that students keep exploring new interests, cultivating existing interests, and gaining new experiences.

### Work on your college list

This is a great time to start editing your college list. If you fall in love with a particular college, consider an early decision (ED) or early action application (EA).

### Visits colleges

Continue to visit colleges, keeping a list of pros and cons for each school. College visits should be set up by visiting the school's website and registering for an official tour. Look up information for each of your choice colleges.

### College Essay

Students should start working on the first draft of their college essay over the summer. The essay questions tend to be similar from year to year. Speak with your English teacher or counselor about choosing prompts.

When it comes out in August, review and start filling out the the **Common Application**. This can help reduce the amount needed to be done in Fall. ([www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org))

# Guidance Counselor Support

**Guidance Counselors and students meet multiple times during students' junior year. They:**

- develop post-secondary plans
- review the application process
- write a recommendation letter
- help students manage stress
- support with academic issues, scheduling concerns
- offer check ins or longer meetings (scheduled by student)
- hold junior seminars with important Junior year details

## **Your counseling team**

Alexia Thomas

Kathy Whelan

Kate Kennedy

Ellen Herz

Clifton Jones

Alex Young

Lenny Libenzon

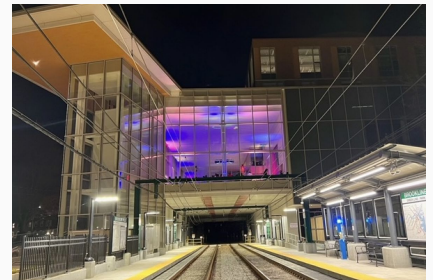
Kara López

Dan Bresman

**Junior year is also FUN!**

**Spirit week in November! Girls flag football the week of Thanksgiving (Monday or Tuesday)! Let's go BLUE!!!**

**Junior Semi MARCH 27!**



# Back to Business: Changing their Course Schedule

- **Electives** (PA, VA, CTE, Wellness), can be changed if space is available until Monday, Sept. 8th. NO MORE FREEZE and no forms needed. After Sept. 9th you can't add a new elective course, and can only drop in consultation with your counselor.

**Be mindful of elective credits needed for graduation!!!!**

- **Academic courses** - two week freeze, same process as usual, drop/add forms needed. The freeze ends on September 16th.
- **Attend all classes every day, even if you anticipate a change—get there on time and stay!**

# Attendance Reminder

[sabrina\\_mcintosh@psbma.org](mailto:sabrina_mcintosh@psbma.org)

<b>Course</b>	<b>Credit</b>	<b>Total Absence Cap/Limit</b>	<b>AWOLCap "Q"</b>	<b>"N" Received (Advisory "F" Received)</b>
Full Year Course	1.0	21	5	6 awols and/or 22 total absences
Semester (full week course)	0.5	10	2	3 awols and/or 11 total absences
Semester (Wellness)	0.25	6	1	2 awols and/or 7 total absences
Hub/Advisory	Transcript P/F	6	2	3 awols and/or 7 total absences

# Being on time for class

## Tardy Policy

Excessive Tardy is defined as being late to class more than 15% of the total minutes of the class, rounded up to the next whole number.

You will get an email/call home if your student arrives 10 minutes late to class or more. We call it a TX (excessive tardy).

You will get an email/call home if your student leaves class for extended periods without permission (10 minutes total or more).

# Bathroom Use & Substances



We want our bathrooms to be safe spaces for all students, and we regularly monitor bathroom traffic. Students should only be in the restrooms while using the facility and/or washing their hands, one person per stall.

Students found loitering in a restroom will have their parent/guardian contacted. Please review the handbook and MIAA rules with your student about substance use at school.

If you'd like to reach out to our Substance Use Prevention team, please email **[gabrielle\\_dean@psbma.org](mailto:gabrielle_dean@psbma.org)**



# **Help us help them:**

## **No Personal Electronic Devices in class**

If a student has their device out in class without permission, the teacher will take it and store the phone for the remainder of the class. If a student refuses to store their phone in a bag or caddy, a dean will support the student, family and teacher with the school expectations.

Students are not allowed to take phone calls on their phone during the day unless they are outside. Please limit contact with your student during the day unless it is absolutely necessary.

# BHS Club Fair

## **X-block Wednesday, September 10, 2025**

- Lead one of our 140+ Clubs or form a new one that interests you.
- All clubs are excited to have new students join their group! The BHS website has club information!
- Junior year is a big year and having a club or an activity is not only great for your future plans post high school but is also a great way to make new friends, learn something new about yourself, in a nice, stress-free block!

# Regular School Schedule Begins 9/8:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri

8:15 start times  
3:00 end time

Wednesdays/Day 2's

8:30 start  
2:16 end

Weekly: T OR X

4 day weeks have **BOTH**

## BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL

## 2025/26 WEEKLY SCHEDULE V.ID

### Regular Week Schedule

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Z <sub>1</sub> 7:30—8:11	Z <sub>2</sub> 7:30—8:11	Z <sub>3</sub> 7:30—8:25	Z <sub>4</sub> 7:30—8:11	Z <sub>5</sub> 7:30—8:11
A <sub>1</sub> 8:15—9:12	C <sub>1</sub> 8:15—9:12	A <sub>2</sub> 8:30—9:27	A <sub>3</sub> 8:15—9:12	A <sub>4</sub> 8:15—9:20
B <sub>1</sub> 9:17—10:14	B <sub>2</sub> 9:17—10:14	T or X 9:31—10:16	B <sub>3</sub> 9:17—10:22	B <sub>4</sub> 9:25—10:22
D <sub>1</sub> 10:19—11:16	D <sub>2</sub> 10:19—11:16	C <sub>2</sub> 10:21—11:26	C <sub>3</sub> 10:27—11:24	C <sub>4</sub> 10:27—11:24
E <sub>1</sub> Class 1 11:21-12:18 LUNCH 12:20  Class 2 11:51-12:48 LUNCH 11:19	E <sub>2</sub> Class 1 11:21-12:18 LUNCH 12:20  Class 2 11:51-12:48 LUNCH 11:19	D <sub>3</sub> Class 1 11:31-12:36 LUNCH 12:38  Class 2 12:01-1:06 LUNCH 11:29	G <sub>3</sub> Class 1 11:29-12:26 LUNCH 12:28  Class 2 11:59-12:56 LUNCH 11:27	D <sub>4</sub> Class 1 11:29-12:26 LUNCH 12:28  Class 2 11:59-12:56 LUNCH 11:27
F <sub>1</sub> 12:53—1:50	F <sub>2</sub> 12:53—1:58	E <sub>3</sub> 1:11—2:16	E <sub>4</sub> 1:01—1:58	G <sub>4</sub> 1:01—1:58
G <sub>1</sub> 1:55—3:00	G <sub>2</sub> 2:03—3:00	Teacher Collab. 2:20—3:00	F <sub>3</sub> 2:03—3:00	F <sub>4</sub> 2:03—3:00

BLACK = 57 minute classes; BLUE = 65 minute classes

Class 2/Lunch 1: EL/English Learners, EN, ID/English, SO/Social Studies, SW/SWS, TU/Tutorial, WL/World Lang.

Class 1/Lunch 2: CE,FP,TE/Career & Tech., MA/Math, PA Performing Arts, SC/ Science, VA/Visual Arts, WE/Wellness Also

### 4 day Week Schedule

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Z <sub>1</sub> 7:30—8:11	Z <sub>2</sub> 7:30—8:25	Z <sub>3</sub> 7:30—8:11	Z <sub>4</sub> 7:30—8:11
A <sub>1</sub> 8:15—9:12	A <sub>2</sub> 8:30—9:27	C <sub>2</sub> 8:15—9:20	A <sub>3</sub> or A <sub>4</sub> 8:15—9:20
B <sub>2</sub> 9:17—10:14	B <sub>1</sub> 9:32—10:37	T 9:25—10:10	B <sub>3</sub> or A <sub>4</sub> 9:25—10:22
D <sub>1</sub> 10:19—11:24	C <sub>1</sub> 10:42—11:39	X 10:10—11:00	C <sub>3</sub> or A <sub>4</sub> 10:27—11:24
E <sub>2</sub> Class 1 11:29-12:26 LUNCH 12:28  Class 2 11:59-12:56 LUNCH 11:27	D <sub>2</sub> Class 1 11:44-12:41 LUNCH 12:45  12:17—1:14 LUNCH 11:43	G <sub>2</sub> Class 1 11:05-12:10 LUNCH 12:12  11:35—12:40 LUNCH 11:00	D <sub>3</sub> or A <sub>4</sub> Class 1 11:29-12:26 LUNCH 12:28  Class 2 11:59-12:56 LUNCH 11:27
F <sub>1</sub> 1:01—1:58	F <sub>2</sub> 1:20—2:16	E <sub>1</sub> 12:45—1:50	E <sub>3</sub> or A <sub>4</sub> 1:01—1:58
G <sub>1</sub> 2:03—3:00	Teacher Collab. 2:20—3:00	F <sub>3</sub> or A <sub>4</sub> 1:55—3:00	G <sub>3</sub> or A <sub>4</sub> 2:03—3:00

Sept. 22, Sept. 29, Oct. 13, Nov. 3, Nov. 10,

Mar. 16, Mar 30, May 25, Jun 15

Special Schedules for MCAS Exam Weeks: Mar 23,

May 18, June 1

"3 or 4" is only for courses that meet on specified days—e.g., APscience labs, WE classes, etc. B and E Blocks take note—B2 & E2 come before B1 & E4 on 4 day week schedule.



## E-RESOURCES AT BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL

	Naviance	X2 Portal	Canvas	BHS Guidance Website
<b>What the students use it for:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Career and college exploration</li> <li>Send transcripts, school profile, and recommendations to colleges</li> <li>Send and receive messages from their counselor/ guidance department</li> <li>Sign up for college visits</li> <li>Look at available scholarships</li> <li>Obtain information about the college process</li> <li><a href="https://student.naviance.com/brookline">https://student.naviance.com/brookline</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check student attendance, obtain quarterly Interim Progress Reports (IPRs) and report cards</li> <li>Access student schedule</li> <li>Complete course selection for next year's classes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Find out their assignments, submit homework and contact teachers</li> <li>Canvas is akin to an assignment book</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information about the department itself and the services it provides</li> <li>Resources from BHS guidance department events</li> <li>Information on school year and summer area programs</li> <li>Various local college/gap year fair information</li> <li>Links on scholarships, financial aid, social-emotional supports</li> <li><a href="http://bhs.brookline.k12.ma.us/guidance">http://bhs.brookline.k12.ma.us/guidance</a></li> </ul>
<b>What parents will find it useful for:</b>	Conduct college searches with your child and look at BHS college admission data	See above	This site is designed to help students manage their time and their academic priorities	Contact information for your child's guidance counselor, standardized information about the college/career process and resources for social-emotional supports
<b>Do I need a password? If so, how do I get one?</b>	<p>No</p> <p>Your child must share his/her password with you to log in.</p> <p>Parents can login as a guest, with the password "bhs" (case sensitive). NOTE: we do not provide a separate password to parents</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>For login information, please email <a href="mailto:datateam@psbma.org">datateam@psbma.org</a> with your name and your child's name</p>	<p>No</p> <p>If you have concerns about your child's work completion or progress in class, email the teachers directly or have your student show you their courses</p>	<p>No</p> <p>This site is open to the public</p>
<b>Suggested frequency of parental use:</b>	As needed during the college process	Check attendance and as needed; for IPRs and report cards	Seldom	As needed

# WE ARE

# BHS



- This is hard. You can do it. We will help you.
- Freedom and responsibility
- You are not done yet
- We create the culture we want
- **Every student is a scholar, citizen, and caretaker.**

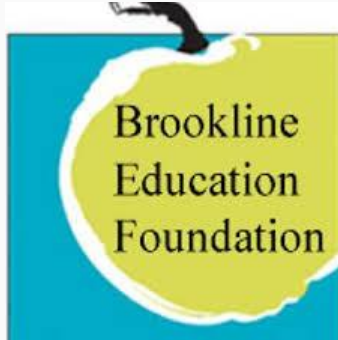
# Get involved!



The **After the Prom Party** is a 30+ year old tradition hosted by BHS parents and the Brookline community to keep our seniors, their dates, and our roads safe after the prom. All. Night. Long!

ATPP Committee is always looking for volunteers!  
**Stay tuned for more information!**

# Thanks also to ...







**Thank you to our  
REPS!**

**Alisa  
Amy  
Jenn**

**[2027reps@bhs-pto.org](mailto:2027reps@bhs-pto.org)**