



# WAYLAND HIGH SCHOOL

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*(Parents of 9th graders: please be on the lookout for a version of this letter, sent in hard copy to your home in early August.)*

August 19, 2019

Dear WHS Parents and Guardians,

I would like to extend to you a sincere and joyful welcome as we begin the 2019-2020 school year! I hope you have enjoyed a memorable summer full of both relaxation and excitement. Although summers have a tendency to fly by, I was able to savor many moments with family and friends and embark on some travel and learning adventures of my own. I hope you did as well.

The opportunity to begin each school year anew is one of my favorite parts of working in education. Every year offers a chance for our students to explore a new set of interests, build upon their successes, and recharge their efforts. For me and the staff of Wayland High School, the start of the new year invites us to look again at our work with an invigorated perspective. To this end, over the summer, our extraordinary staff members have been rethinking curriculum, preparing new learning experiences for students, and enriching their own learning through classes and workshops. Our learning, like our students', never stops.

As you know, this year we are prepared for significant and exciting change with our later start time, our revised Advisory program, and our new leadership team. Schools are ever in flux, and I look forward to the positive impact that each of these changes will have on our school community. Information on these and other happenings appears below.

**Welcome to Mr. Gass and Ms. Cole!** Our two new Assistant Principals, Mr. Sean Gass and Ms. Laura Cole, enthusiastically dived into their new roles this summer and have already contributed a great deal to our school community. Although we collaborate fully as an administrative team, Mr. Gass will work primarily with grades 9 and 10, and Ms. Cole will work primarily with grades 11 and 12. They will join us at an early PIE meeting for another round of introductions.

**Start time information:** I'd like to draw your attention to this letter, sent to all WHS families in early July, which summarizes the changes related to our later start time:  
[https://whs.wayland.k12.ma.us/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_1036540/File/School%20Start%20Time%20Letter%20to%20Parents%20&%20Students.pdf](https://whs.wayland.k12.ma.us/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1036540/File/School%20Start%20Time%20Letter%20to%20Parents%20&%20Students.pdf)

**Back to School Night:** This year's Back to School Night at WHS is on *Thursday, September 5*, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. On this evening, you will meet your child's teachers, learn about their courses, and have an opportunity to explore our campus.

**Home Access Center:** HAC is our school-to-home portal for information pertaining to your student's attendance, schedule, grades, and discipline. Please make sure you have registered for a HAC account; a link to the registration information is on our WHS website.

**Laptop pickup:** Laptop pickup information is linked on our WHS website and appears here:  
<https://whs.wayland.k12.ma.us/cms/one.aspx?pageId=2674368>. Please know that the process is different for parents of 9th graders and parents of 10-12th graders. Pickup occurs on August 21, 22, and 26 (for grades 10-12 only) and on August 27 at Orientation (for grade 9 and transfer students only). Please also note that *both parent and student* must sign the "Laptop Care, Maintenance and Support Agreement" in order for the laptop to be distributed.

**Student schedules:** Students in grades 10-12 will be able to view their schedules on HAC just prior to the first day of school. Students will receive an email when the HAC portal is open. It will be very important for students to view their new Advisory location on HAC so they know where to go following our all-school assembly on the first day of school. Our incoming 9th graders and transfer students will receive their schedules in hard copy during Orientation on Tuesday, August 27.

**Athletic complex:** If you have driven past the high school this summer, you have no doubt noticed the dramatic progress of our athletic complex renovation project. At this time, the former softball field site in front of WHS and the stadium area are active construction sites surrounded by fencing. This fall, I will send you regular project updates via eNews.

**WHS Parent Teacher Organization:** The WHS PTO (formerly WHSPO) promotes communication and collaboration among parents, staff, teachers, and the administration. We truly value our partnership with our parent community and the many ways that the WHS PTO supports our work. If you would like to get involved, the president this year is Stephanie Leung (waylandhighpto@gmail.com).

**School-home communication:** During the school year, I will continue to send a weekly eNews update on Fridays. Please subscribe to eNews on our WHS website. Each month, the WHS PTO newsletter, found on the WHS website, captures the goings-on at the high school. I welcome you to attend our monthly "PIE" (Parent Information Exchange) meetings which I host with Marybeth Sacramone, our Guidance department chair, and that generally take place at 8:45 a.m. on Friday mornings. Please join us on **Friday, October 11, at 8:45 a.m.** for our first PIE. The full schedule for this year's PIE meetings is here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lEAVLqGsGTiInlCnjw-9hrXHaw4qu7bLC8xCfdpFRD0/edit>.

I am fortunate to have met many of you throughout my 20 years at WHS, and I deeply treasure the high school's close connection with the community. Whether you are an old friend or a new face, please don't hesitate to reach out to say hello or for a more substantive conversation. I am very excited to see your children on Wednesday, August 28, as we launch a new year of learning. Please enjoy the remaining days of summer. Welcome back!

Sincerely,



Allyson Mizoguchi  
Principal

**P.S. See you at Back to School Night on Thursday, September 5, at 7:00 p.m.!**

### **Upcoming dates:**

Tuesday, August 27, 9:00 a.m.: Orientation for 9th graders and transfer students

Wednesday, August 28: First day of school (assembly begins in the Field House at 8:35 a.m.)

Friday, August 30: No school

Monday, September 2: No school (Labor Day)

Thursday, September 5, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.: Back to School Night

Sunday, September 8, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.: METCO Family Fun Day at Happy Hollow School

Thursday, September 12, 7:00 p.m.: Ninth Grade Parents Night (lecture hall)

Wednesday, September 18: Early release for professional development (dismissal at 12:15 p.m.)

Thursday, September 19: Underclass picture day

Monday, September 30: No school (Rosh Hashanah)