

**HALL's CORNER – Summer 2018 Edition!**  
**SUMMER GREETINGS FROM BRIGHTON HIGH SCHOOL**  
**First Day of School is Wed., Sept. 5th**  
**BHS Opens at 6:45 AM on School Days**  
**Homeroom starts at 7:40 AM!**



August 1, 2018

Dear BHS Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

What a great year we had in 2017-2018. **We are gearing up for an even better 2018-2019!** For all of you whom I have not yet had the pleasure of working with, I look forward to seeing you at school, at your child's events, at PTSA meetings, at VPA events, at athletic contests, and more!

BHS believes that everyone has the right to attend school in an environment that is safe, welcoming, caring, professional, and free from harassment.

### **Who is the BHS Principal?**

This will be my 23<sup>rd</sup> year in education and my 22<sup>nd</sup> year in the Brighton Central School District. Before becoming the BHS Principal in 2012, I...

- Taught Regents and AP Biology in the BHS Science Department;
- Coached varsity football and varsity girls' lacrosse;
- Assisted with Science Olympiad, was a class advisor, and participated in many extracurricular events like Whale Watch and Peak Experience;
- Served as an assistant principal at BHS from 2002-2007;
- Served as FRES Principal from 2007-2012.

**I love what I do each and every day and look forward to serving you, your students, and the BHS community in the new year! I truly believe in our mission at BHS and will do everything I can to make it our reality – *BHS believes that everyone has the right to attend school in an environment that is safe, welcoming, caring, professional, and free from harassment.***

### **What are we working on this year at BHS?**

As a school, we will be working on the following Brighton Blueprint Goals/Initiatives in the coming year. I will certainly provide an overview of the year and answer questions at our first two **PTSA Meetings with the Principal on 9/25 at Noon and 10/23 at Noon and 7 PM.**

- Continuing with our **Therapy Dog** Program;
- Continuing with our **focus on diversity and bias** with a specific emphasis on working with students in poverty;
- **Studying the concept of homework** at the high school level including: research, the purpose of HW, rationale, best practices, completing faculty/student/parent focus groups/surveys, etc., and making recommendations for improving our overall approach with homework;
- **Studying and implementing Restorative Practices and use of conflict resolution circles** to provide students an opportunity to engage in restorative conversations when conflict/code of conduct violations take place at the high school level with other students or staff – the goal is for the students and staff to work together to repair relationships and to discover solutions to the conflict/problem, building skills for the future (research, rationale, best practices, training, etc. and making recommendations for future building-wide implementation);
- Studying and evaluating our **new security policies and protocols** and adjusting as needed.

## **REMINDERS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION IN THIS LETTER**

### **Dignity for All Students (DASA)**

**Goal:** To end bullying, prevent future incidents of bullying, ensure the safety of all, and obtain prompt and equitable resolution of a complaint. The Dignity Act prohibits discrimination against students by students and/or employees on school property or at a school function based upon a person's actual or perceived...**color, weight, disability, ethnic group, national origin, race, sexual orientation, sex, gender (including gender identity or expression/transgender), religion and/or religious practice.**

**What do you do if you have or think you have a DASA complaint against a staff member or another student?**

- Contact the Dignity Act Coordinator, Dr. Hall, to discuss and/or file a complaint
- Contact a trusted staff member or counselor or your assistant principal
- Talk with your parents!

### **SCHEDULE Reminders**

- Homeroom starts at 7:40 AM and 1<sup>st</sup> period starts at 7:49 AM. **Students are expected to attend Homeroom each day to ensure proper recording of attendance, participation in surveys/voting, and obtaining other important information.**
- **FLEX Period is from 11:01 AM to 11:31 AM daily**
  - *Students are **NOT** allowed to leave campus during this time unless legally excused for an appointment, etc.*
- **Open Campus will continue to be during periods 5, 6, and 7**
  - **Open campus is from 11:35 AM to 1:58 PM each day.** Students with free periods during this time are welcome to leave campus. Students may lose this privilege for academic and/or behavioral reasons.
  - As usual, students will be required to sign out when leaving the building during open campus times and sign back in when they re-enter the building at one of our two security desks. Students will continue to sign in/out from the attendance office if arriving late to school or leaving early for appointments.
  - **Parents may ask that their student's open campus privileges be restricted. Contact your student's assistant principal ASAP if you wish to do this.**
  - **Students are not allowed to transport other students in cars during the school day.**

### **Attendance Office – PLEASE REVIEW (as per BHS Parent/Student Handbook)**

#### **Procedures for Notifying Office about Absences and Late Arrival/Early Dismissal**

Notifying Attendance Office – If a student will be absent, tardy, or leave early, **the parent/guardian must notify the attendance office that day or the day before the school absence.** Students without proper notifications for being absent, tardy, or leaving early, will have their attendance recorded as unexcused and will face disciplinary action.

The Attendance Office voicemail can be reached 24-hours a day at **242-5000, Ext. 7014**. If you choose to leave a phone message or send in a written notification, the information provided **MUST** include:

- A. Parent or guardian's name and relationship to the student**
- B. Student's name**
- C. Date(s) and times of absence(s) - past and future**
- D. Reason for absence.**

### **Freshmen and New Student Orientation – BHS GYM**

Orientation will be held on **Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup>**. This is our fourth year with the LINK CREW program to assist freshmen and new students in grades 9-12 with their transition to BHS. Link Crew is a nationally recognized program that pairs high school upperclassmen with freshmen and new transfer students.

**Orientation runs from 8 AM – 12:00 PM for all freshmen and new students entering grades 9-12. Students will meet in the BHS GYM at 7:50 AM.**

Our Link Crew Leaders attended an initial training in May and have follow up training in August. All Link Leaders are expected to attend the trainings as well as the Orientation Day. If you have any questions about Link Crew or Orientation, contact counselor, Keri Crowley, at [keri\\_crowley@bcisd.org](mailto:keri_crowley@bcisd.org) or 585-242-5000 ext. 5225. **Orientation is for students only.**

### **NEW Parent Orientation and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents who missed 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent night back in January, 2018 – BHS ROOM 262**

If you are a new parent to Brighton High School or are a parent of an incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade student who missed our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night held back in January, 2018, we are holding a PARENT Orientation Night on **Wednesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM in ROOM 262** of Brighton High School. We will devote part of the meeting to general questions about BHS.

Information about our schedule, school policy and procedures, communication with staff, school activities, academic offerings, opportunities for student help, PTSA, school calendar, etc. will be shared at this meeting. All attendees will get a packet of important information about BHS. You will also hear from current students who transferred into BHS.

### **2017-2018 Suggested School Supply List**

BHS has a suggested school supply list for several BHS departments and courses. Some courses list general supplies for all sections and some teachers have individual supply requests for their specific sections. Please review and plan ahead. **Final schedules with teacher assignments will be visible on Parent/Student Portal on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Students can be proactive in purchasing supplies before the first day of classes.** We hope this assists you with the purchasing of school supplies! **You can find the PDF version of the suggested supply list on the BHS website by selecting About US and Principal's Page and choosing supply list on the NEWS section.**

**Link to About BHS for School Supply Lists:**

<https://www.bcisd.org/cms/lib/NY02212067/Centricity/Domain/114/2018-19%20Supply%20List%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

### **Work-Based Learning & Independent Study Opportunities – STUDENT WORKERS NEEDED!**

The Work-Based Learning Program offers students the opportunity to earn academic credit while gaining practical work experience in a paid part time job (General Work Experience) or non-paid Professional Internship. One elective credit may be earned for either General Work or Professional Internship Experience. General Work Experience can be in any part-time job placement during after school hours. Internships are planned individually in accordance with the needs and interests of each student and are more career focused. **Internships are offered during the school day, summertime, and after school hours. Both work-based learning programs can be initiated any time during the school year.** Colleges and employers look favorably on the inclusion of Work-based Learning programs as part of the high school learning experience.

**More than 100 community organizations have been involved in the program to date, and development of additional placements is ongoing.** Some examples of internship sites and community placements have been within the following career areas:

Education, Medicine, Business, Information Technology, Social Service Agencies, Criminal Law/Justice, Newspaper, Engineering Architecture, Building Trades, Graphic Design, TV and Radio Broadcasting, Research, Physical Therapy, Veterinary Medicine, and Dentistry.

### **What is the Procedure for Doing a Work Based Learning Program?**

Once school starts, students should contact the Work-based Learning Coordinator, Mrs. Ida Marra, to discuss possible job opportunities. The student and Work-based Learning Coordinator will work together to explore and identify opportunities, internship/job placement sites, and schedules. **Students must also complete the internship/job forms prior to starting any internship/job and attend a Work Seminar during Flex one day every cycle.**

Interested parents and students need to discuss these great opportunities with their school counselor. There are also independent study, exploring, and shadowing experiences available as well. Please contact **Ida Marra** at **585-242-5000 ext. 5020** for more information.

## **Information During the School Year – Hall’s Corner e-NEWS, Parent Portal, and School Messenger!**

During the school year, you will receive information from BHS primarily through e-News, the Parent Portal, School Messenger (automated phone messages), and occasional special mailings. If you are not already signed up, **please sign up for the Parent Portal to have access to your child’s updated course grades, schedule, attendance record, running averages, and report cards.**

Please sign up for the Parent/Student Portal to have access to your child’s course grades, updated schedule, attendance record, and report cards. **Here is the direct link to the Parent/Student Portal system:** <https://schooltool.bcsd.org/schooltool/>

If you already have an account from last year, you are all set! **If you did not have an account last year, or if you have forgotten your account information, please contact us at [BHS MainOffice@bcsd.org](mailto:BHS_MainOffice@bcsd.org), state your name, your child’s name, and request access to the parent portal. An account will be created for you.**

### **PARENT/STUDENT PORTAL UPDATE**

Parent Portal provides parents with access to their own child’s school information including schedules, attendance, report cards, grades and a running average. Our teachers have always been committed to providing timely feedback. Parent Portal is simply an online extension of their hard work in this area, and parents should expect continued timely communication.

**Teachers will be updating the portal regularly following the completion of assignments.** You can also expect your student’s running average and assignments to be kept up to date. The goal is to allow students and their parents the ability to see a student’s academic progression throughout each quarter.

### **FALL PERFORMING ARTS Opportunity**

Auditions for the BHS fall play, Neil Simon’s *45 Seconds from Broadway*, will be held in the BHS auditorium on August 28<sup>th</sup> from 2-4:30 PM. Callbacks, if needed, will be on August 30<sup>th</sup> from 2-3. Everyone will be asked to do some warm ups, character building games and present scenes/monologues that will be provided for you. Information and audition materials will be available on the website by the week before auditions. If students are unavailable on August 28<sup>th</sup>, you must contact Mrs. Parent ASAP to arrange for an alternative time. Please e-mail and/or contact the VPA Office at 242-5000 ext. 5046.

### **FALL ATHLETES – Certification Reminders!**

August 13<sup>th</sup> is the 1<sup>st</sup> day of JV/Varsity Sports. Online registration through Family ID is currently open. Families must register their athlete within 30 days of the season starting.

### **UPDATED/REVISED Code of Conduct Policies – As Per the BHS Parent/Student Handbook**

**Please refer to the 2018-2019 BHS Parent Student Handbook for ALL school policies and code of conduct. You can find the complete code of conduct on the BHS webpage under About Us and Principal’s Page.**

### **VAPING Devices and Vaping Materials**

**Vaping use is certainly on the rise in the US, NYS, Monroe County, and in local high schools.** In our 2017 Youth At Risk Behavior Survey, 11% of our students (110 students) admitted trying traditional cigarettes at least once in their lifetime. However, 28% of our students (280) said they tried e-cigarettes and/or other vaping devices at least once.

Electronic cigarettes are devices that utilize stored electricity to heat a liquid into vapors, which are then inhaled by the user. The liquid can be anything from a flavored water-type mixture, to high concentrations of liquid nicotine and/or THC, the principal active element of marijuana. Vaping devices present many new dangers for students and others around them.

According to Board Policy 5640 – SMOKING/TOBACCO USE, “tobacco use shall not be permitted and no person shall use tobacco on school grounds or within one hundred (100) feet of the entrances, exits,

or outdoor areas of any public or private elementary or secondary schools.” For purposes of this policy, e-cigarettes and all vaping devices are prohibited on school grounds. Students are NOT allowed to possess or use vaping devices or vaping juices on school grounds.

### **Over the Counter (OTC) Medications, Prescription Medications, & Drugs**

Student possession/use/distribution/purchase/selling of OTC, prescription medications, and/or other illegal drugs in school is prohibited. Students may only obtain OTC medications from the health office if a written release is on file, signed by a parent and the student’s physician.

It is against NYS public health law and Brighton Board of Education Policy for students to possess, use, and/or distribute over the counter and/or prescription medications while on school grounds. Parents and the student’s doctor should complete the OTC medication release form and submit the form to the health office. This form allows our school health office to administer basic OTC medications such as acetaminophen or Ibuprofen.

Vicodin, OxyContin, Percocet, Valium, Xanax, Ritalin, Adderall, Concerta, Dexedrine

- 1 in 5 teens are abusing prescription drugs.
- 70% of prescription drugs are obtained from a friend or relative.
- Prescription drugs can be addictive and lethal when misused.
- 40% of teens believe prescription drugs are safer to abuse than illegal drugs.
- Safeguard all drugs at home.
- Monitor quantities and control access.
- Dispose of old or unused medicines: [www.monroecounty.gov/hhw](http://www.monroecounty.gov/hhw) (585) 753-7600, option 3.

### **The Safe Schools Helpline**

The helpline was designed to help prevent any situation that may jeopardize the safety of our schools, students, staff or school community. The Safe Schools Helpline is monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Helpline is anonymous to protect your privacy and enhance the likelihood that you or others will report dangerous circumstances, especially after school hours or on the weekends when school staff might not be available.

#### **Examples of safety concerns that you may want to report anonymously include:**

- potential acts or threats of violence;
- drug or alcohol use;
- theft;
- weapons;
- sexual harassment/abuse;
- bullying/cyber bullying;
- concern for someone’s mental or emotional health and well-being;
- immediate assistance to a suicide counselor for prompt assistance and intervention if they so choose.

You may also submit an anonymous report through the Safe School website at [www.safeschoolhelpline.com](http://www.safeschoolhelpline.com) or via text by messaging 66746 and then typing “TIPS” to begin the reporting process.

### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Modern technology has made available many forms of electronic devices for communication and computation. Examples of electronic devices include, but are not limited to, ALL SMART DEVICES, cell phones, calculators, personal laptops/computers, school issued laptops/computers, digital cameras, recording devices of any kind, hand held devices, etc. In most cases, laser pointers are not allowed in school. The Brighton Central School District is not responsible for damage, missing, or loss of personal property, nor is the district responsible for locating personal property that has allegedly been stolen or missing.

Students may bring devices to school but must also recognize they are responsible for their safekeeping and for their appropriate use. While these devices are useful, they also cause many concerns in the school environment as described below.

**Students who use electronic devices that disrupt the academic setting, invade someone's privacy, and/or cyberbully others, may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including, confiscation of devices, turning in devices to the classroom teacher prior to the start of class, turning in devices to administrators for a period, multiple periods, for the day, week, month, etc., banning devices from school property, suspension from school, and/or other disciplinary penalties as defined in the District Code of Conduct.**

**Students who have been banned from using electronic devices on school property are also banned from using other students' devices while on school property, and these devices will be confiscated. Students sharing devices with other students are subject to disciplinary action and may be subjected to further discipline if their device is used to disrupt the academic setting and/or to cyberbully other students and staff.**

### **Invasion of Privacy**

Given the capability of electronic devices (audio and visual), they cannot be used in a manner that will jeopardize the privacy of either staff or students. Students may not record or take a picture of other students or staff without their permission. The use of devices in restrooms or locker rooms is strictly prohibited. Students who use electronic devices in inappropriate manners may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including, suspension from school. **Items may also be confiscated and students may be restricted from bringing devices to school.**

The production, possession, transmission and/or distribution, by any means, or the transmission of materials as text, including but not limited to, sexually suggestive images, nude or partially nude images or sexually explicit text in any media, is strictly prohibited. Students violating this policy may be subject to all district forms of discipline, including police involvement/arrest.

### **Disruption of Academic Setting/Cyber-bullying**

Brighton High School's purpose is to maintain an academic environment. Electronic equipment should be activated during academic settings for approved academic use only. Settings refer to, but are not limited to, the library media center, classrooms, computer labs, study halls, support center, skills lab, public assemblies, and field trips. **If not being used for teacher/administrative approved academic purposes, personal electronic devices should be silenced and/or turned off on a daily basis upon entering a classroom setting unless otherwise directed by your teacher or staff member. Students should not disrupt the academic setting by using electronic devices.**

As with other forms of bullying, cyberbullying is an attempt to display power and control over someone perceived as weaker. Cyberbullying involving District students may occur both on campus and off school grounds and can involve student use of the District Internet system or student use of personal digital devices while in school buildings, on school buses, on school property, and/or at school sponsored events/activities whether occurring on or off school campus. Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to, harassing, teasing, intimidating, threatening, or terrorizing another student or staff member by way of any technological tool, such as sending or posting inappropriate or derogatory e-mail messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, sexting, or Web site or social media postings (including blogs).

### **Academic Honesty**

To maintain an appropriate educational environment, electronic devices (audio and visual) must not be used in any manner that will jeopardize the integrity of any class assignment, homework, and testing or assessment situation. Any violation of this provision will be considered a violation of Brighton's policy of academic honesty (see academic honesty).

### **OPEN/CLOSED CAMPUS & MAIN ENTRANCE AND EXITS**

Students will be required to sign/swipe out when leaving the building during open campus times and sign/swipe back in when they re-enter the building at one of our two security desks.

During periods 5-7 (11:35-1:58), campus is open and students with free periods during this time are allowed to sign out at a security desk. Students must sign back in at the same security desk. **Students**

**are not allowed to transport other students in cars during the school day and are not allowed to sit in their cars during the school day.** During periods 1-4 and 8, the campus is closed and students are required to remain on the high school campus. For security/educational purposes, students may sign out of the building, remain on campus, and sign back in at the end of the free period. Students are to remain behind the building. **However, campus is closed from November – April each year during periods 1-4 and 8.** Students must remain in the building during these months and can only sign out to leave the building during open periods or for an approved excused appointment.

### **Main Entrance and Exits**

For security purposes during the school day, students are only allowed to enter and exit through door #1 and door #20 (entrances monitored by security). **Students are NOT allowed to prop open doors or to open doors/exit from doors in other areas of the building. All exterior doors will be alarmed and monitored.** Students found violating this security policy will face disciplinary consequences. This is a major safety violation!

### **Reduced Free Periods and Open Campus Restrictions**

Students in the 9th grade at BHS may have reduced free periods and limited open campus privileges based on their academic performance and behavioral infractions at TCMS. Students coming to BHS from TCMS with final course grades, second semester special course grades, and 4th quarter special course grades of D or lower, and students coming in with behavioral infractions as noted by TCMS Administration (such as Saturday detentions, ISS, and/or OSS) will be affected by this policy.

Students who meet the criteria above will be scheduled into a study hall, skills lab, and/or academic intervention class depending on student need. BHS FLEX time may also be limited or structured for these students. Depending on a student's specific schedule and course selection choices, every effort will be made to ensure at least one free period per day for lunch.

At the end of each quarter, report cards of ALL 9th grade students will be reviewed.

- Students with free period and open-campus restrictions may be granted free periods based upon passing grades and parent consultation. Students having one or more failures may be placed in structured supports during free periods and FLEX as their schedule allows.
- Students with NO behavioral infractions and/or students modeling our BHS mission statement may also be granted free periods on a case-by-case basis.

**Parents of incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders or current 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders can also request that their child's free periods, FLEX time, and open campus privileges be limited or structured. Please contact your child's assistant principal ASAP if you wish to do this.**

**Students are NOT allowed to sit in cars during the school day.**

**Students Schedules will be available via the Parent/Student Portal on August 18<sup>th</sup>.**

I look forward to working with you and your children this coming school year. It is going to be a great one!

Sincerely,

*Tom Hall*

Thomas Hall  
BHS Principal  
242-5000 ext. 5001

**Please note the following upcoming events:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>
August 9-10	Nurse available for Re-certification for Fall Athletes - Health Office	8:30-12:30
August 13	1 <sup>st</sup> Day JV/Varsity Sports (Nurse Available from 8:30-4:00)	
August 18	Student Schedules on Parent/Student Portal	
August 29	New Parent Orientation and 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parents Who Missed the January 2018 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night	6:30-7:30 PM in Room 262 at BHS
August 30	Freshmen and NEW Student Orientation – New and improved!	8 AM - Noon
September 5	First Day of School – Homeroom starts at 7:40 AM	7:40 AM
September 5-12	Grade level and homeroom meetings – FLEX Overview, Code of Conduct Policy Updates, Brighton Believes, & Dignity for All Students Act	TBA
<b>September 13</b>	<b>OPEN HOUSE</b>	<b>6:30 – 8:45 PM</b>
September 13 & 14	School Pictures: 9 <sup>th</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup> Grades on 9/13, and 11 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup> Grades on 9/14	ALL DAY
September 17-22	Homecoming Week – More information to follow.	TBA
September 22	Homecoming Parade and Games	TBA
September 22	Homecoming Dance	7-9 PM
<b>September 25</b>	<b>PTSA Meeting with Principal for PARENTS, Room 262</b>	<b>Noon</b>
September 27	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night	6:30 PM
October 4	Financial Aid Night – for all parents with kids heading to college!!!!	6:00 PM
October 18	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night	6:30 PM
<b>October 23</b>	<b>PTSA Meeting with the Principal for PARENTS, Room 262</b>	<b>Noon and 7 PM</b>

**BHS Administration**

Matt Comeau Assistant Principal <b>Students A-E</b>	Teresa Mosher Assistant Principal <b>Students F-Leone</b>	Sarah Jacob Assistant Principal <b>Students Lerner-R</b>	Mike Pincelli Assistant Principal <b>Students S-Z</b>
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**BHS Counselor Assignments 242-5000 ext. 5010**

	<b>Kevin Donohue</b>	<b>Keri Crowley</b>	<b>Courtney Stern</b>	<b>Jennie Viggiani</b>	<b>Hennessey Lustica</b>	<b>Holly Juliano</b>
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade Class of 2022</b>	Abu-Baker – Darrow	Day – Karpinski	NA	Katz – Minor	Moore – Silvio	Slanika - Zogaan
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade Class of 2021</b>	A – Chin	Choi – Ghassat	Goldstein – Labuhn	Lalonde – Minerva	Mohammad – Shafer	Sherwood - Z
<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade Class of 2020</b>	A – Diaz	Dickason – Hunt	Hurwitz – Macadam	Mackinnon – O’Mara	Padela – Smith	Sneider – Z
<b>12<sup>th</sup> grade Class of 2019</b>	A – Dilts	Dirrigl – Kesler	Kil – McGuire	McKenna – Rapp	Raynor – Teng	Tickyj - Z
	242-5000 ext. 5223	242-5000 ext. 5225	242-5000 ext. 5224	242-5000 ext. 5221	242-5000 ext. 5228	242-5000 ext. 5227

**Lisa Wetherbee – Alternative High School Counselor, 242-5000 ext. 3722**

**Dr. Erin Merydith – School Psychologist, 242-5000 ext. 5226**

**Heather Gabriel – School Psychologist, 242-5000 ext. 5010**

**Lance Mitchell – Social Worker, 242-5000 ext. 5012**

**Ida Marra – Internship, Work Study, & Independent Study Coordinator, 242-5000 ext. 5020**