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April 13, 2022

Dear Class of 2022 Seniors, Parents and Caregivers:

As our seniors begin the fourth quarter of their final year at BHS, we write to touch base on several fronts. Speaking for the entire faculty of Brookline High School, we have been very fortunate to witness the growth and accomplishments of the Class of 2022 over the past four years and especially during these past two very challenging years. Our seniors have demonstrated high levels of commitment in many areas: academic, athletic, artistic and social justice. While we want to rejoice in your student's growth and accomplishments, we also need to begin planning for them leaving us.

In order to help you plan for the end of the year, we have prepared a calendar of events below. We also address important issues which relate to a successful end of the year, such as hold slips, "senior skip day," "senior pranks," and special rules pertaining to the last week of school, including the Prom and After-the-Prom Party (ATPP). It's a long list but very important. Please read this entire document carefully and take time to discuss it with your student. We want to be clear and to avoid any incidents that may disrupt a celebratory and dignified ending to the year.

## Senior Calendar

- April 26      **Special Awards Program** in the Auditorium for academic excellence and citizenship. Award recipients and their families will receive individual invitations. Invited students are encouraged to attend.
- May 1          **All past due items** owed to BHS from your Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior years (textbooks, athletic equipment and fees, etc.) must be returned to the appropriate department.
- May 1          **Last day to order your senior yearbook!** All yearbook orders are placed [online at Jostens.com](http://Jostens.com).
- May 1          Deadline to purchase a yearbook advertisement.
- May 2          **Senior Assembly during Monday T-block** in the Auditorium to review the closing calendar, discuss graduation planning, Prom, and the After-the-Prom Party. Lots of prom-related prizes will be given out but you have to be in attendance to win!
- May 2          **Prom, After-the-Prom Party and Cap & Gown tickets on sale!** All seniors must purchase a cap & gown in order to participate in graduation. All payments are to be made online through the online payment system at this [link](#) which will accept payments starting May 2nd.
- May 2-13      Advanced Placement exams will be given for students who have opted to take them.

- May 6th **Musicians/singers for graduation deadline:** Seniors interested in playing an instrument or singing at graduation should submit their names and proposed performance to Ms. Fagan in room 162 by Friday, May 6. Auditions will be scheduled for the week of May 9th in the band room. Mr. Driscoll, Ms. Castellano, & deans, will help select the final performers.
- May 11 **Graduation speaker deadline:** If you are interested in speaking at graduation, please submit a 3-5 minute audition video to Dean Figueroa by Wednesday, May 11th. A smaller group will be selected for a live audition the week of May 16th. You will be evaluated for appropriateness, delivery, and clarity of thought. We do not expect a finished speech but the more you have completed, the better you will do.
- May 11 **Last Senior PTO meeting:** 7:00 pm on Zoom with Dr. Virmani & BHS Grad panel. Link to be shared closer to the event.
- May 13 **If you have a food allergy** or special diet considerations please provide the details to the deans' secretary, Ms. Sharon Fagan, by Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.
- May 20 **Deadline to purchase your Prom, After-the-Prom Party Ticket.**
- May 20 **Deadline to purchase your graduation Cap & Gown.**
- May 25-26 **Senior Final Exams** will be given in class.
- May 26 **The Brookline High School Scholarship Ceremony** will take place at 6:45 pm in the Roberts & Dubbs Auditorium. Following the ceremony in the Auditorium, students, caregivers and donors are invited to the STEM Commons area where students will be directed to meet their donor(s).
- May 27 **Deadline for seniors to return all current year materials** to their teachers or respective departments and pay any outstanding fees. Payments must be made in cash to the department in which the item is owed. Please resolve any outstanding debt directly with the issuing department.
- May 27 **Last day of classes for seniors.**
- May 31 **Brookline High School Senior Prom** will be held at the House of Blues from 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm. (See details below and attached contracts.)
- May 31-June 1 **After-the-Prom Party from 11:30 pm until 5:00 am. Any student who attends the ATPP must stay until at least 3:30 am.**
- June 2 8:30 am - noon seniors will clean out their lockers and remove the lock from their locker. Items left in lockers will be discarded or donated to charity.
- June 2 **Annual Senior Check-Out Day** - this is an opportunity for seniors to return school materials and hang out in the gym with classmates and sign autograph pages.
- Clear all hold slips (BHS owned items you have borrowed) and complete the guidance survey. No senior will be allowed to pick up a cap & gown until all outstanding items (including cap & gown payment) are returned and the survey completed.
  - Pick up their caps and gowns from 10:00 am - 12:30 am in the Schluntz Gym.
  - **Participate in a mandatory graduation rehearsal in the Schluntz Gym at 2:30 pm.**

- Yearbooks will be mailed to you. Yearbooks need to be **pre-purchased** directly with Jostensyearbooks.com by May 1st. Students have the ability to make installment payments online.

June 5           **GRADUATION!** All seniors must report for the pre-processional line-up at 12:15 pm. (see below for more specifics on graduation.)

## **Prom & After-the-Prom Party**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>May 2 - 20 Prom and After-the-Prom Party tickets on sale.</b></li> </ul> |
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Our After-the-Prom Party will be held at the BHS Tappan Street Gym from 11:30 pm Tuesday, May 31 until 5:00 am on Wednesday, June 1. Students attending the ATPP are not allowed to go home to change after the prom. ATPP is the result of a long-standing collaboration between the PTO, BHS parents, the school, town, and larger high school community. The idea is to help our seniors celebrate their upcoming graduation within a safe, community-sponsored event. The parents who organize the ATPP work innumerable hours to make it an enjoyable time for everyone. We hope we have the support of all parents/caregivers to ensure that this important community endeavor continues for years to come.

**Before Prom Check in** students must bring their bag with their change of clothes to the secure check in at Tappan Gym before they check in to attend the prom. **No bags will be allowed on the bus or at the prom.** **ALL purses must be no bigger than 10” X 10”.**

**When arriving at the House of Blues, all students will be searched by House of Blues security personnel per venue policy.**

Alcohol and/or substance abuse of any kind at the Prom and the ATPP will not be tolerated. **Any student suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be immediately sent home with his/her parent/guardian and will be prohibited from participating in all remaining graduation related events, including the graduation ceremony itself.** We reserve the right to administer breathalyzer tests to any student who appears to be under the influence.

**Prom and ATPP tickets and Cap & Gown payments will be online from Monday, May 2 through Friday, May 20 through the online payments system at this [link](#).**

The cost of the Prom & ATPP is \$150.00. This cost includes the Prom (\$125.00), and After-the Prom Party (\$25.00). Any senior may purchase just an After-the-Prom party ticket for \$25.00 if they do not plan to attend the Prom. Any *senior* seeking financial assistance should contact the deans’ secretary, Ms. Sharon Fagan, in room 162 no later than Monday, May 9.

**All students who attend the Senior Prom must also attend the After-the-Prom Party and stay until at least 3:30 am. If there is an issue with a student meeting this requirement, the student’s parent/caregiver must reach out to Dean Lisa Redding** at the above contact information before Friday, May 27 at noon. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our students safe on the most dangerous night of the year for high school students.

If you and your families would like to make a tax-deductible, monetary donation to help students who need assistance offsetting the costs of Prom and ATPP, you can make a donation here - [Donation link](#). Please select “Senior Prom” in the drop down menu.

All seniors are also required to purchase a Cap & Gown (\$25.00) online even if they do not intend to attend the Prom or ATPP. A Cap & Gown is required for graduation.

## **Brookline High School Graduation**

Our graduation will take place on Sunday, June 5, 2022 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Fisher Hill Reservoir Park, 74 Fisher Ave., Brookline.

We will provide seats for up to 3 guests per graduate. Additional guests are welcome but should come with their own chairs/blankets to enjoy the festivities.

We will make every attempt to have the graduation outside. In light rain, we would stay outside. If there is a window of bad weather expected we would move the start time of graduation as early as 11am and as late as 4pm. The threat of dangerous winds and/or lightning would move us inside. We will notify you by phone and email on Sunday morning with the plan for such weather contingencies if necessary. **If we are indoors at the Schluntz Gym, the fire department will strictly limit us to the gym's capacity, which means two (2) guests per graduate in the Schluntz gym.** Other family members and friends will be able to watch the event on the B.I.G. live stream.

A professional photographer will take pictures of your graduate as they ascend to the stage, receive congratulations from Head of School Anthony Meyer, and as they leave the stage with the BHS diploma. You will receive details of this from our photography company, **Gradimages**, before graduation. In addition, **Brookline Interactive Group (B.I.G.) will provide a live stream of the graduation ceremony in its entirety.** This video stream will be available during and after the graduation at: <http://brooklineinteractive.org/live> . Please invite distant relatives to join us in that way. For these reasons, **we ask that family and friends refrain from coming forward during the graduation to take pictures. People will not be allowed to block the aisles or stand in front of seated guests at the ceremony.**

## **Other Important Notes**

We all look forward to these exciting senior events, and of course, we expect responsible behavior throughout from all our students. In the interest of clarity, it is necessary that everyone understand that we will enforce the following.

- 1. We do not award blank diplomas.** No senior will receive a diploma until they have successfully completed all graduation requirements.
2. To participate in the graduation ceremony, each student must have cleared all outstanding hold slips and must purchase a cap & gown.
- 3. Each student will be required to sign a Prom contract** at the time of ticket purchase (copy attached). The contract, in part, says, *“The Prom is considered a school event. All school rules of conduct apply. Any student found to be in possession of, or under the influence of, drugs or alcohol will be required to leave the Prom accompanied by a parent/guardian, will be immediately suspended from school, will not be allowed to attend the After-the-Prom Party, and will be suspended from future school related activities including graduation ceremonies.”*
- 4. Please read the Prom contract carefully and sign it with your student.**
- 5. Absolutely no Prom tickets or ATPP tickets will be sold at the door** for either the Prom or After-the-Prom Party. Any senior seeking financial assistance should contact the deans' secretary, Ms. Sharon Fagan, in room 162 no later than Monday, May 9.
- 6. We do not condone senior pranks.** In the past, senior pranks have turned malicious and destructive despite our best efforts to work on them with the students, and are not sanctioned. Students who damage property or behave in a disrespectful manner will be subject to BHS school rules, including paying for damages individually and being excluded from the graduation ceremony.

7. **Any senior who commits a suspendable offense** as defined by the Student Handbook (including an action committed as part of a senior prank) during the final week of school will not be allowed to participate in any other school activities, including athletic events, Prom, After-the-Prom Party, Senior Check-Out Day, Award ceremonies and the Graduation ceremony itself.

8. **There is no such thing as senior skip day or a class trip.** Students who miss a day of school for this reason will receive AWOLS. Students who N-out of a class due to excessive AWOLs or exceed the total absence cap put their graduation at risk.

9. In compliance with Massachusetts law and 603 CMR 23.06(3), Brookline Public Schools will oversee the destruction of all temporary student records five (5) years after those students have left the Brookline school system, due to transfer, graduation or withdrawal. Therefore, please collect your temporary record within five years of leaving the system. The student's permanent record (transcript) is maintained by the school system for sixty (60) years. [See: M.G.L. c. 71, s. 34D; 603 CMR 23.00]

We are looking forward to a joyous end of the year with our seniors!

Dean Williams, Dean Redding and Dean Figueroa

Enclosed: BHS Student Prom Contract; Outside BHS Guest Prom Contract