



August 2021

Welcome back, students and families of the Class of 2024!

I hope your summer has been enjoyable and restorative. Here at WHS, we are busy and excited preparing for the 2021-22 school year. The following information should be helpful as you think about the year ahead:

Student Schedules

Students and families will receive an email at the end of the week directing you to log into the Aspen portal to see their schedule for the year. You may want to take time between now and then to [log in to Aspen](#) so you don't encounter any delays when you are seeking schedule information later this week. For any questions about Aspen or problems with your account, please access [WPS Aspen Support](#).

Building Tours: August 24th, 10:00 am-1:00 pm

On August 24th, new and returning students will have the opportunity to walk through their schedules and identify their classroom locations prior to the first day of school. Senior NHS volunteers will be stationed throughout the building to guide student walk-throughs. Structured building tours for new students will also be offered during this time.

Please note: this is students' **only** opportunity to walk-through their schedules; the first day of school this year will follow the traditional Day 1 schedule for all students. **Advanced sign-up to attend on 8/24/21 is strongly recommended**; click here for [High School Tour Sign-Ups](#).

Supplies

In most cases, each student will need a 3-ring binder to stay organized. Beyond that, students' schedules and teachers' preferences will vary widely, and unfortunately, it's impossible to create a list that covers all students' needs in all classes. Teachers do not expect students to have specific supplies during the first days of school. Instead, your teachers will include this information on their course expectations sheets on the first days of school.

Summer Reading

We are excited for this year's One School, One Book Summer Reading initiative for [WHS Summer Reading](#). One School, One Book is a movement designed to get an entire school community to connect through a shared reading experience. All Westwood High School students are reading *We Are Not Free* by Traci Chee. This fall, the WHS community will participate in activities surrounding the themes in the book and meet Traci Chee in a virtual author talk. Please contact our librarian Ms. Fisher or English Department Chair Ms. Holmes if you have any questions.

Notification regarding Science and Wellness classes

Please take a moment to read over [this letter](#) explaining which classes at the high school substantially involve human sexual education and issues.

Save These Dates:

A few key dates you might want to make a note of now are below:

- **August 24:** Student Tours/New Student Chromebook Pickup, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
- **September 1:** Students' first day (follows the [traditional Day 1 schedule](#) for all students. The school day begins at 7:25 am and ends at 2:05 pm)
- **October 7:** Curriculum Night, 7:00 pm

Key People to Contact with Questions

If you have a question or concern requiring the support of an administrator, your primary contact for the next four years will be:

- Dean of Students Aishleen Flanagan: aflanagan@westwood.k12.ma.us (Building Administrator for the Class of 2024)
- Administrative Assistant to the Principal Jacqueline Kinsman: jkinsman@westwood.k12.ma.us
- High School Attendance: hsattendance@westwood.k12.ma.us

A few other things to consider:

- Lockers are available this year to all students on request via GoogleForm. Assistant Principal Millett will notify students about how to opt into an assigned locker later this month.
- **School lunches will be free for all students all year;** access your student and/or parent/guardian [LINO](#) account to pre-order (strongly recommended), and make sure you present your school-provided student ID card at checkout.
- [MySchoolBucks](#): you may also want to establish and/or replenish your child's MySchoolBucks account to purchase snacks from our snack window and à la carte items from the cafeteria. Prices vary. Cash will only be accepted at vending machines.
- Please note: if you are experiencing financial difficulties and/or would like to apply for waivers for school-related costs, please access the [WPS Food Services](#) website for more information. Families are strongly encouraged to apply for free/reduced lunch to connect you with additional resources and fee waivers.
- [The WHS PTO](#): Our wonderful Parent-Teacher Organization works hard to support innovative and broad-reaching programs and initiatives that enrich our students' experience. Please take a moment to [Pay Your WHS PTO Dues](#)—which are a suggested donation of \$40 per family per year.
 - If you are experiencing financial difficulties and would like to request a waiver for these and other school-related costs, please contact your guidance counselor.

I know this is a lot of information to keep straight, but I hope this note will serve as a resource for you in the coming weeks. I look forward to seeing you in person soon. Please let me know if you have any questions, and enjoy the rest of the summer!

Sincerely,



Amy L. Davenport

Principal, Westwood High School