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**Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District**  
**BAY PATH REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH**  
**SCHOOL**  
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Dear Parent/Guardian:

This summer, we are excited to launch a fresh, dynamic approach to keeping our students sharp and ready for the upcoming school year. Instead of traditional summer reading, we are shifting our focus to **targeted, interactive skill-building through IXL**. This shift ensures our students return in September feeling confident, capable, and equipped for their new coursework.

*Note for advanced learners: Students enrolled in Advanced Placement (AP) English or Science courses will still complete their mandatory AP summer assignments to get a head start on their specialized curriculum.*

### **How It Works This Summer**

To keep momentum going, we encourage students to complete **at least 15 questions weekly** on IXL, aiming for a **SmartScore of 80 or higher** on their chosen topics. This bite-sized, consistent practice will lay a fantastic foundation for the instruction they'll meet this fall.

To give our students ownership over their learning, they can choose the path that fits them best:

- **The Personalized Route:** Work directly on their individual IXL recommendation plans to strengthen specific skills.
- **The Guided Route:** Follow a curated, grade-level summer plan designed by IXL.
- **The Future-Focused Route:** Use the platform's targeted tools to prepare for the PSAT/SAT.

### **Why We Use IXL**

Bay Path utilizes IXL to support Math, English Language Arts, and Biology because it is incredibly effective at celebrating what students already know while gently highlighting where they can grow. This allows us to provide a truly personalized learning experience for every single student.

- **For Our Incoming Freshmen:** Welcome to Bay Path! Upon enrollment, all incoming ninth-graders complete an adaptive IXL placement assessment in Math and ELA. Because the test adjusts in real-time to your child's answers, it accurately celebrates their current skill levels.
- **Understanding the Score:** IXL reports this data as a simple three-digit score. The first digit represents the grade level, and the next two show the percentage of curriculum mastered (for example, a score of 675 means a student is thriving at a sixth-grade level with 75% mastery). This helps us place our freshmen into the most supportive and appropriate academic classes.
- **For Our Returning Students:** Our current students take brief IXL Diagnostic assessments throughout the year. These benchmarks are wonderful tools that allow us to measure and celebrate their growth over time, ensuring our teachers can tailor instruction to their evolving needs.

Ultimately, these insights allow IXL to generate personalized practice recommendations that help students bridge learning gaps, reinforce foundational skills, and build soaring academic confidence.

To help you get started, here is a quick Introductory Video to the IXL Platform called IXL for Families.

<https://youtu.be/P4OA8unH55U?si=-uuJ6rSQPeNNYmi2>

Best regards,

*Samantha McGuane, Ed.D.*

Academic Director

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