



HINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Greetings HPS Community,

I hope this beautiful summer day finds you all well and ready to enjoy the weekend ahead. It has been an exciting and busy week here in Hingham Public Schools, and despite the challenges of the past few months and the uncertainties ahead, I am drawing inspiration from the traditional end of summer activities that signal the start of a new school year. This week, our Administrative Leadership Team met to finalize plans for staff orientation and professional development, and we are eager to collaborate with our faculty to prepare for the new year of teaching and learning. Similarly, I am drawing optimism from my conversations with our newest teaching faculty who have been hired in recent weeks. I meet personally with each new teacher and I find much to be hopeful about in my conversations with these aspiring educators.

Following are district updates with regard to school reopening:

New Teacher Orientation: This Monday, August 24th, we will welcome 15 new teachers to the Hingham Public Schools for two days of orientation prior to the return of our teaching faculty. We are particularly grateful for the expert teachers who volunteered to support our newest educators through the New Teacher Mentoring program.

Convocation & Professional Development: On Wednesday, August 26th, we officially mark the beginning of the school year with our annual Convocation for all teaching faculty. Over subsequent days, the district will host an intensive program of professional development and curriculum workshops. Focus topics will include safety protocols, best practices in hybrid/remote learning, technology integration, social-emotional learning, differentiation, Special Education, and discipline-specific curriculum work.

Schedules/Cohorts: K-12 principals and administrators continue to work on schedules, cohorts and bus assignments. K-5 principals plan to announce elementary cohorts this coming week, to be followed by class lists. Due to the complexities of the HMS and HHS schedules, the secondary team will require additional time to issue information on cohorts and schedules.

Health and Safety Protocols: This week, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health announced that all students will now be required to receive a flu vaccination on or before December 31, 2020. As this requirement has just been announced, we encourage anyone with questions to contact their physician for more information.

Please stay tuned for more information from your building principals with specific information related to each of our schools. Thank you for your continued support of Hingham Public Schools.

Until next time,

Paul Austin, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Hingham Public Schools