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Skowhegan Area High School and Bloomfield Academy

DANIEL F. HYLAN
DIRECTOR OF GUIDANCE

JON CHRISTOPHER
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Dear Skowhegan Area High School Student and Family,

We hope this letter finds you and your family well. It is hard to believe we are ready to start another school year. Our plan for the reopening of schools in the fall has focused on implementing safety measures that will allow our students to be back in the building for in-person learning. We will continue to work with the Maine Department of Education to update our plan while taking into account the local, state, national guidelines. Our plan can be found on the district's homepage [Back to School Plan](#).

As you know, SAHS is offering a hybrid or fully remote learning model. Regardless of how students are learning, they will be expected to participate in their classes each day based on the requirements established by their teachers. These requirements will be reflected in teachers' syllabi. Unlike this spring, classes will meet every day, students will be graded, and attendance will be taken. More information regarding expectations will be shared with parents and students in the coming weeks.

Due to the ongoing COVID concerns this year, we ask that if you are dropping off your student that you do so between the times of 7:50 - 8:10 a.m. Pick up time will be between 2:10 - 2:30 p.m. If you are driving yourself to school, please do not enter the student parking lot prior to 7:50 a.m. We ask that you enter the school building right after your arrival. Bus students will be dropped off and picked up at the bus doors and will be dismissed at 2:15. Regardless of how you arrive at school or leave to go home, please remember to wear your mask when walking to and from the building during these arrival and dismissal times.

In-person/hybrid students will be split alphabetically into two cohorts. Students with last names A-J will represent one cohort and K-Z a separate cohort. **Students with last names K-Z will begin their rotation on September 2nd and last names A-J will begin on September 3rd. Please note, September 1st will be a freshmen orientation day; all freshmen are invited for orientation.**

Each student will be provided with a laptop to assist them with their work and online interaction. This laptop can go home once the appropriate paperwork is completed. We will address the lack of home Internet on a case by case basis.

Please be reminded that when a cohort is not in school for in-person learning, they are expected to learn from home. Several changes have been made and will be implemented this fall; it will be important that students and families are aware of the following:

- All students will need to access their school (MSAD 54) email accounts, as this will be a necessary learning tool for communication.
- Staff will be assisting students with accessing their email accounts in the first few days of school.
- Students will be working on educational platforms such as Schoology, Google Classroom, or Google Sites. Teachers will train students on how to access and navigate online learning materials.
- The Skowhegan Area High School schedule has been changed so that students are focused on no more than 4 courses at any one time.
- Your guidance counselor may have changed: Mr. Riley: A-F, Mr. Hylan: G-N, and Mrs. MacFarland: O-Z.

Communication between school and families is always important; however, working together will be more important than ever during the 2020-21 school year. Therefore, please ensure your contact information is current and up to date in PowerSchool. Also, should you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher or a member of the administrative team.

First Day of School Important Information for all Students:

Freshmen:

- Please bring and wear your mask.
- Your first day will be on **Tuesday, September 1**. (All freshmen students are invited to orientation and to attend school this day).
- On September 2, all freshmen with last names beginning K- Z will attend school. The cohort A-J and full remote learners will be home.
- On September 3, all freshmen with last names beginning A-J will attend school. The cohort K-Z will be home working on assignments your teacher shared with you on Wednesday.
- Full remote learners, please check your email for directions from your teachers regarding how to connect and expectations for these days.
- Please remember if traveling by bus please remember the number that dropped you off at school.

Sophomores, Junior, and Seniors:

VERY IMPORTANT

If you were unable to **return your textbook and calculator** from last year, please bring them with you on your assigned first day of school. These items will be collected in your advisor block at the start of the day. If you are a remote learner we will connect with you about how best to pass along the school laptop and textbooks for this semester and collect last year's textbooks/calculator if necessary.

- Please bring and wear your mask.
- On **September 2** all sophomores, juniors, and seniors with last names beginning K-Z will attend school. The cohort A-J and full remote learners will be home and will not have to check in on this day.
- On **September 3** all sophomores, juniors, and seniors with last names beginning A-J will attend school. The cohort K-Z will be home working on assignments your teacher shared with you on Tuesday.
- Full remote learners, please check your email for directions from your teachers regarding how to connect and expectations for these days.
- SCTC seniors will have their program **every day** (Blocks 3 and 4) so they should plan to be in school every day during the first semester (**September 2 - January 22**).
- SCTC juniors will have their program **every day** (Blocks 3 and 4) so they should plan to be in school every day during the second semester (**January 25 - June 18**).
- If traveling by bus, please remember the number that dropped you off at school

Please visit this link for a list of supplies recommended for classes this fall: [Supply List](#)

Thank you,

Mr. Mochamer, Mr. Bellerose, and Mr. Vigue