



~Welcome Back to School~
2018-2019

Dear Heath Brook Families,

It's hard to believe that another school year is just around the corner! I'd like to take this opportunity to officially welcome you back to the Heath Brook for the 2018-2019 school year. We would also like to send along a special welcome to our new Kindergarten students and families as they get ready to begin their educational career at the Heath Brook! Starting a new year brings about change and anticipation for everyone. As the faculty and I prepare for our students to join us, I'd like to share with you some important and exciting updates, all of which will positively impact teaching and learning at the Heath Brook School.

Who's New at the Heath Brook:

We are excited to share with you our new grade level teams this year:

Kindergarten	First Grade	Second Grade
Mrs. Greene	Mrs. Price	Mrs. Taggart
Mrs. Hynes	Mrs. DeCarolis	Mrs. Enos
Miss. Hendsbee	Mrs. Ventura	Mrs. Brewin
Mrs. Paradis	Mrs. Whynot-Parthum	Mrs. Mulloy
Mrs. Rodgers	Mrs. Engelken	Mrs. Bowden
Mrs. Spatola - Special Educator	Miss Niles	Mrs. Bancroft
	Mrs. Langlais - Special Educator	Miss Walsh - Special Educator

What's New at the Heath Brook:

This year brings with it tremendous new opportunities for learning in the form of technology! I'm happy to share that the Heath Brook School has acquired an additional 5 iPads per classroom for a total of 11, along with new charging cabinets. The iPads will continue to be utilized during small/whole group instruction to support deeper learning in all content areas. Teachers will also have access to 2 laptop carts and 2 iPad carts that house a full class set for student use. In addition, we also have 2 Clear Touch Screens that are being piloted at the elementary level in place of Smart Boards and projectors.

Our building has also undergone some capital improvements! The Heath Brook School received a fresh coat of paint, in addition to several maintenance updates inside. We have developed some beautiful spaces to enjoy in the form of a student-created Rock Garden at the front entrance, as well as bench seating by the cafeteria door. Please check out our new retaining wall and flower beds in the front of the building as well!

Home-School Communication:

In order to strengthen our home-school communication, the Heath Brook is always looking for better ways to stay connected to our students and their families. Below are some of the new tools the Tewksbury School District implemented to make communication easier and more efficient:

- **New and Improved Heath Brook-Trahan PAC Website:** Please visit the new website at <https://www.hbtpac.org/> to stay up to date on the latest information sent out by Heath Brook School-Trahan PAC community.
- **Critical Information forms now accessible online:** To reduce the amount of paper we send home to you, we have made electronic versions of some of the forms for you to read and sign. Please use the following links to fill out each of your children's Accident & Illness form in preparation for the 1st day of school.

Please click here: [Heath Brook Accident/Illness Form](#)

- **Student Handbook:** Please make sure that both you and your student take the time to review the online student handbook. We make changes to the handbook each year and it is helpful for families to be familiar with the handbook and its contents. All parents must verify they have reviewed the handbook by completing the on-line Elementary Handbook Sign Off by **Friday, Sept. 14th, 2018.**

Please click here: [PreK-Gr.4 Elementary Handbook](#)

Please click here: [Elementary Handbook Sign Off Form](#)

- **Aspen Accounts:** Please click [here](#) to learn more about Aspen, which is our secure, web-based school information management system that organizes all facets of student data – from attendance to conduct, grades to schedules, transcripts to activities. Tewksbury has been using Aspen for many years with great success. The Student Portal has been implemented and is available to all K-12th grade students.

Morning Drop Off Procedures:

Each year, we reflect on our drop-off and pick-up procedures to make sure that we have systems in place that allow students to get to school safely and efficiently. Please click [here](#) for a helpful visual map that outlines this year's drop off procedures. We gently remind families of the following routine:

- ***Elementary School Families -***
 - Drop off begins at 8:25 am. Staff members are not on duty to monitor students prior to that time
 - Enter into the parking lot (far left) and remain in the single file vehicle drop-off line
 - Wait for staff members on duty to signal that it is time for your student to exit the vehicle
 - Safely exit the parking lot in a single line
 - ***Please do not park in the lot during morning drop off***
- ***Extended Day Preschool Families -***
 - Drop off begins at 8:00 and continues until 8:20 am
 - Enter into the front "bus" loop in a single file vehicle line
 - Wait for Extended Day Preschool staff members to signal that it is time for you to assist your child in exiting the vehicle
 - Safely exit the parking lot in a single line

Afternoon Pick Up Procedures:

Tewksbury Public Schools provides bus transportation to all students. We encourage families to utilize this resource, as it is an exciting part of our students' school experience. However, if you choose to pick up your child in the afternoon, we kindly ask that you print/fill out the following dismissal form and send it to school with your child on the first day of school. We will have paper copies available as well.

Please Click Here: [Heath Brook School Dismissal Form](#)
Please Click Here: [Heath Brook Afternoon Pick-Up Procedures](#)

Opportunities to Get Involved:

We actively encourage our families to get involved in their child's school experience! Keep an eye out for upcoming information on ways to participate as a volunteer or as a member of a council. Consider joining the Heath Brook Community by:

- ~**Serving on the Heath Brook School Council**~
- ~**Volunteering in our school library**~
- ~**Becoming a member of our PAC (Parent Advisory Council)**~
- ~**Lending a hand at a PAC organized event**~
- ~**Volunteering in your child's classroom**~

Upcoming Events:

There's lots of exciting events in the coming weeks! Add these important dates to your calendar!

- **Kindergarten Orientation/Open House** - August 27th @ Heath Brook from 4-6pm
- **Opening Day of School** - August 29th @ 8:45am
- **No School** - Friday, August 31st
Monday, September 3rd
- **Open House for Grades 1 & 2** - September 6th @ 6-8pm
- **Student Picture Day** - September 17th
- **Dine-Out Night @ Panera** - September 19th

On behalf of the Heath Brook faculty and staff, I would like to welcome you back to another great year of exploring, learning and growing. We look forward to making 2018-2019 one of our best years yet!

My Best,

Felicia Wettstone, Principal