

Welcome to 9th Grade Parent Orientation!

Wednesday, August 29th, 2018

7:00 p.m.

Ballard High School Auditorium

Program

Welcome and Introductory Comments

Mr. Keven Wynkoop, Principal

From a Student's Perspective

Link Crew Student Leaders

Helpful Hints from Parents

Chris Witeck, PTSA President

Information from School Counselors
Overview of Packet – Helpful Hints

Sonja Petersen, School Counselor

Introduction of Support Staff

Admin Team and Support Staff

Please join us in the Foyer after the program. Staff will be available to answer any remaining questions you might have.

Thank you for coming this evening,
and again, welcome to Ballard High School!

We would appreciate your suggestions for how to improve this program. Please feel free to e-mail Sonja Petersen at slpetersen@seattleschools.org to share your feedback. Thank you!

BALLARD HIGH SCHOOL RESOURCES

1418 NW 65th St, Seattle WA 98117

Main Office: 206-252-1000

Fax: 206-252-1001

Website: www.ballardhs.seattleschools.org

| | | | | |
|--|---|------------------|--|--|
| Principal: | Keven Wynkoop | (206) 252-1000 | kswynkoop@seattleschools.org | |
| Assistant Principals: | | | | |
| | Elizabeth Guillory (A-F) | (206) 252-1004 | eguillory@seattleschools.org | |
| | Carrie Burr (G-N) | (206) 252-1003 | cjburr@seattleschools.org | |
| | Laura Roesener (O-Z) | (206) 252-1005 | lroesener@seattleschools.org | |
| Main Office | Vivian Belcher, Administrative | (206) 252-1000 | vlbelcher@seattleschools.org | |
| | Kim Nickerson, Athletics | (206) 252-1147 | kdnickerson@seattleschools.org | |
| | Cindy Peterson, Office Assist | (206) 252-1000 | crpeterson@seattleschools.org | |
| Attendance | Alice March | (206) 252-1009 | ammarch@seattleschools.org | |
| Activity Coord. | Kevin Kendrick | (206) 252-1077 | khkendrick@seattleschools.org | |
| Athletic Director | Eric Ensign | (206) 252-1076 | erensign@seattleschools.org | |
| Academic Intervention Specialist (HSPE/ End of Course/ Testing Coordinator) | | | | |
| | Lisa Coacher | (206) 252-1107 | lcoach@seattleschools.org | |
| | Mike Broom | (206) 252-1097 | mr_broom@seattleschools.org | |
| Counselors: | | | | |
| | A – Coh | Sonja Petersen | (206) 252-1106 | slpetersen@seattleschools.org |
| | Coi-Ha | Sarah Bowman | (206) 252-1011 | sabowman@seattleschools.org |
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| | Mj – Sa | Gail Olson-Laing | (206) 252-1103 | gsolsonlaing@seattleschools.org |
| | Sb – Z | Leti Bravo | (206) 252-1104 | lbravo@seattleschools.org |
| Counseling Sec. | Carol Bristol | (206) 252-1014 | chbristol@seattleschools.org | |
| Career Center Specialist | Helen Maynard | (206) 252-1012 | hbmaynard@seattleschools.org | |
| School Nurse | Annette Cologna | (206) 252-1007 | alcologna@seattleschools.org | |
| Fiscal Office | Karen Kazanjian | (206) 252-1075 | klkazanjian@seattleschools.org | |
| Registrar | TBD | (206) 252-1105 | TBD | |
| Librarian | TuesD Chambers | (206) 252-1121 | tschambers@seattleschools.org | |
| Service Learning | Grayce Mitchell | (206) 252-1015 | gamitchell@seattleschools.org | |
| Tutoring | Diane Steen (volunteer) | | ddsteen@seattleschools.org | |
| Lunchroom | Lan Dang | (206) 252-1134 | ldang@seattleschools.org | |
| Custodians | Young Wong | (206) 252-1133 | yowong@seattleschools.org | |
| Security | Dan DeLong, Soodjai Kutrakun, Marcus Lewis | (206) 252-1110 | | |
| Teen Health Center | TBD, Patient Service Coordinator Chelsea Clark, Mental Health Counselor Karen Boudour, Nurse Practitioner | (206) 781-6400 | | |

The **SOURCE/PowerSchool** and **Schoology** pages

www.ballardhs.seattleschools.org

BHS Frequently Asked Questions 2018

GENERAL

When is Freshman Orientation?

Thursday, August 30th! Students should arrive at the Main Gym at **8:00 a.m.** Activities will conclude by 12:00.

What should my student bring the first day of school on Wednesday, September 5th?

On the first day, students should bring several pencils and pens, paper on which they can take notes, and a folder or other notebook with pocket dividers in which to collect class handouts. The student should also bring lunch or money for lunch on the first day. Throughout the day, teachers will instruct students if any materials are required for the class. For instance, some teachers require a Composition Book so all work is taped into the Composition Book to be turned in. Other teachers do not. Once your student receives this information from his/her teachers on the first day, then the student can gather the school supplies that they need and create an organizational system for homework. Help your student set up an organizational system so that they know exactly where to place completed work to be turned in, assignments to be completed each night, and how to put long-term projects onto their calendar or planner.

Do we need to buy a calculator?

All students in Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Precalculus, Statistics and higher math must have access to a graphing calculator. The standard calculators used in all classes at Ballard are the TI-83 and TI-84, from Texas Instruments. Geometry students are required to have a basic scientific calculator. If students are unable to purchase a calculator, there will be some available for checkout from their math teacher. Math teachers will give more information through their classrooms.

When will school pictures be taken?

September 6th and September 7th during the school day via the students' classes. Information on ordering picture packets was sent home in your summer mailing.

When can I meet my student's teachers?

Please attend Ballard High School's **Curriculum Night, Thursday September 27th at 6:30pm.** This is an open house during which you will follow your student's schedule, meet each teacher, and learn about each class.

How much does school lunch cost?

Lunch is \$3.25 and breakfast is \$2.25, unless your family qualifies for free/reduced lunch. Parents can send money with the student to deposit into their account or you can prepay on-line at www.seattleschools.org/meals or click on Nutrition Services for further information.

How do we sign up for free/reduced lunch?

There is paperwork for free/reduced lunch in the main office that families can complete. You can also access this on-line at www.seattleschools.org, click on Departments then Nutrition Services. Fill out this form and have the student return it to the school lunchroom. Students who were on free/reduced lunch last year in a Seattle public school must fill out a new form each year, but prior eligibility will be carried over for the first month of school. There are additional benefits available to students who qualify for F/R lunch, such as help with some school fees, so if you do qualify, it is good to submit the form even if the student does not plan to eat school breakfast or lunch.

Does my student have to buy an Activity Card and how much is it?

Students who wish to participate in a sport or music must purchase an Activity Card. Otherwise, the Activity Card is not required, but it is encouraged as this allows students to receive discounts on attending sporting events, buying their yearbooks, etc. The Activity Card is \$35. Activity Cards are sold in the Activity Center before school, during break, and during lunch.

Can we get help with other school fees?

Yes, if your family qualifies for free/reduced lunch. Please have your student see their school counselor for assistance with course fees, SAT/ACT testing, etc.

Can students leave campus at lunchtime?

Yes, 9th – 12th graders are allowed to leave campus for lunch, but keep in mind that they need to be back in time for their next class.

I hear there are two lunches. How does that work?

Due to our large student population, we have two lunch sessions: 1st lunch and 2nd lunch. It is based on the student's 4th period class. Students whose 4th period classroom is on the 1st floor have 2nd lunch, meaning they go to lunch after 4th period. Students whose 4th period classroom is on the 2nd floor have 1st lunch, meaning they go to lunch right after their 3rd period class.

What is the best way for me to keep up-to-date with information about school events?

First, sign up for the PTSA listserv. This is a great way to keep up-to-date and to receive the Daily Bulletin delivered right to your e-mail. This is the same Bulletin that students hear during the week, and it holds important information about deadlines and opportunities. To sign up for the listserv, e-mail ballardhighnews@gmail.com. Also, visit the Ballard High School website regularly at www.ballardhs.seattleschools.org. The BHS website also posts news, upcoming events, and the Daily Bulletin.

What are the general rules of the school?

All students will receive a Student/Parent/Guardian Handbook the first few weeks of school which outlines school policies and procedures.

Is there a dress code?

Detailed information will be listed in the Student/Parent/Guardian Handbook. In general, if there is a concern about decency or message t-shirts, the assistant principals will speak with the student about this concern and might ask them to change clothes or send them home.

Are cell phones or electronic devices allowed?

Students may carry cell phones/devices, but these must be out of sight and turned off during class time. Such devices can be confiscated if they are used or seen during class.

Does each student get a locker and when do they get one? Do they need to share? Whom does my student contact if they do not get a locker?

Lockers are distributed the morning of the first day of school when the student picks up his/her official schedule. Each 9th grader should be able to have a locker and not need to share. However, this sometimes takes a few weeks to settle out at the beginning of the year because we are adjusting our rolls to reflect students who have moved over the summer or who do not require a locker. If your student has not been assigned a locker by the second week of school, your student should check with custodian Mr. Young Wong in the Commons regularly to see if a locker has opened up.

Can students drive to school?

Yes, but students cannot park in the staff parking lot by the tennis courts. They must park on the street.

If I have a question about transportation to school, such as bus passes, whom should I contact?

Call the Seattle School District transportation office at 252-0900. If you have a question more specific to Ballard High School, please call Liz Guillory.

PTSA (PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION)

When and where is the first PTSA meeting?

The first general PTSA meeting is **Thursday, October 4th at 7pm** in the BHS Library.

If I want to get involved with PTSA right away or if I want to volunteer for school projects, whom should I contact?

Contact President Chris Witeck (bhs.ptsa.pres@gmail.com) or Wendy Carlyle (bhsvolunteer@hotmail.com) for volunteer opportunities.

Is there a fee to join PTSA?

Membership is \$10/person. People interested in joining can do so online at <http://www.ballardhighschoolptsa.org/> or contact **membership chair Kimball Mullins** at kimball_mullins@yahoo.com. There will also be a membership form sent home in the PTSA packet the first week of school. Scholarships are available.

Where can I find out about upcoming PTSA activities?

We encourage you to sign up for the PTSA's listserv which lists important announcements regarding PTSA, school activities and the Daily Bulletin. The Ballard PTSA also has a website:

<http://www.ballardhighschoolptsa.org/>

How do I sign up for the PTSA listserv?

To sign up for the listserv, e-mail ballardhighnews@gmail.com.

What is the "PTSA Packet"?

The PTSA Packet is an envelope containing important forms and information which your student will bring home the first week of school. The packet will include such things as PTSA membership information, free/reduced lunch form, and various booster club/activities information. Please ask your student for this packet as it contains much valuable information.

CREDITS

How many credits are needed to graduate for students in the Class of 2022 (incoming 9th graders)?

24 credits are required for the Class of 2022.

How much credit does each class earn?

.50 for one semester, so a student who takes 6 classes each semester can earn 3.0 credits per semester, to total 6 credits per year. Therefore, if students take a full schedule of six classes every year and pass all classes all four years, they would graduate with 24 credits.

What is a quarter and a semester?

A quarter is nine weeks. A semester is two quarters or an 18-week grading period. Semester grades are the final grades that are posted on the transcript. (Quarter grades are not posted on the transcript.) Some teachers average the 1st quarter and 2nd quarter grades to determine the semester grade; others determine the semester grade as a cumulative grade with the quarter being a progress report. Please check the teacher's syllabus to determine the grading system of that class. First semester ends January 29th.

If my student does not pass one of his/her classes, will summer school or credit retrieval be needed?

It depends on the course. If the course is a specific grade-level requirement, such as Intro to World Lit and Comp 9A, the student will need to make up that credit by taking a class outside of their regular schedule (after school, summer, etc.). If the course is an elective or is one that can be repeated during day school, the student does not necessarily have to make up the course. Have your student see their school counselor to discuss credit retrieval options.

If my student doesn't pass several classes, will he/she be held back and have to repeat 9th grade?

The Seattle School District requires that students earn 5.0 credits if they are to move on to the 10th grade. This means that if a student fails more than one class per semester, the student would not have earned 5 credits and would need to make up that credit to achieve the 5 credits required to move on to the 10th grade. A student who does not achieve 5 credits will be noted as a 9th grader again on the computer, but will take tenth grade classes.

When do students learn about credits?

Counselors meet with all ninth graders to teach students about graduation requirements and to do a High School and Beyond Plan. We go over this information again each spring as students select classes for the following year. Students are encouraged to request a credit update at any time from their counselor.

What is the grading scale?

A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, E.

Does an E count in the GPA?

Yes. An E counts as zero points in the GPA average.

Do Honors and AP classes count for extra points?

Honors and AP classes receive points for the purpose of class rank only, but this does not affect the GPA.

What is considered a passing grade?

A grade that is a 60% or higher (D) is considered a passing grade.

Where can I find information about course offerings and special academic programs?

Please see our Course Catalog. The Course Catalog is on our website at www.ballardhs.seattleschools.org under “Academics.”

STATE TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION – CLASS OF 2022

English Language Arts, Math and Science

Which state tests does my student need to pass to graduate?

Students in the class of 2022 must take and pass the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) in English Language Arts and in Math and the Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science (WCAS) in order to earn a diploma from Ballard High School. Additional and updated information can be found on the OSPI website at the following link: <http://www.k12.wa.us/assessment/StateTesting/>

When will my student take these tests?

Students in the class of 2022 will take the SBA in English Language Arts and in Math the spring of their 10th grade year. Students will take the WCAS the spring of their junior year. An overview of Ballard’s Testing Schedule will be available in early October, and can be found on the following BHS website link: http://ballardhs.seattleschools.org/academics/assessments_overview/

Whom can my student contact with questions about these state testing requirements?

Lisa Coacher and Mike Broom, our Academic Intervention Specialists, support parents/guardians, students, and staff with information about State Testing. They can be reached by calling (206) 252-1107 or emailing Lisa Coacher at liscoacher@seattleschools.org or Mike Broom at mrbroom@seattleschools.org

ACADEMIC SUPPORT**What are “The Source/PowerSchool” and “Schoolology Pages” and how do I access them?**

The Source/PowerSchool is a progress report system on which teachers can choose to post grades and assignments for their students and parents to see. Students and parents can use the Source from home to monitor the student’s attendance and completion of assignments. In addition, many teachers have created Schoolology Pages for their classes which often hold updated class assignment information, materials, and messages to students and parents. The best way for students to access and/or create a login for the Source and Teacher Schoolology Pages is through the Ballard High School website www.ballardhs.seattleschools.org and click on “Student Portal” at the top of the page.

How often should I check the Source?

Most teachers update the Source approximately every two weeks, but this is not required. You are welcomed to check as often as you feel necessary, but you may see most accurate data if you check the Source every two weeks. If you wish to monitor attendance closely, you can check the Source more frequently.

How should I help my student if he/she is struggling in a class?

The goal is to help your student learn problem-solving skills, to give them the confidence that they can solve their problems on their own in the future. First, talk with your student. Brainstorm with them what they could do to improve their performance, such as making good use of homework time at home, keeping a daily planner for assignments, and finding a quiet place for homework. Help your student set up an organizational system so that they know exactly where to place completed work to be turned in, assignments to be completed each night, and how to put long-term projects into their calendar or planner. Secondly, encourage your student to speak to the

teacher to ask for assistance in figuring out why they are not doing well. The student should also seek tutoring either from the teacher or from another source. If the student tries these things and is still struggling, the parent may choose to e-mail the teacher to gain insight into what might be helpful. The student can also speak with their school counselor and the parent may choose to call the counselor for assistance.

How do I contact a teacher?

E-mail generally works best. E-mails can be accessed directly on The Source (just click on the teacher's e-mail) or on the Ballard website. If you do not have internet access, call the Main Office at 252-1000 and ask to be connected to the teacher's voice mail.

How quickly should I expect a response from an e-mail or a voice mail to school staff?

Within three school days. Teachers are teaching most of their working day and so may not be able to return your e-mail until the following day or two. If you do not hear from a school staff member within this time, e-mail or phone again, and please feel free to contact the principal or assistant principal for assistance.

What tutoring resources are available?

Volunteer tutors will be available in the BHS library after school Monday through Thursday. This will be evaluated periodically to see if students are using this service or if it should be discontinued. Diane Steen is our volunteer tutoring coordinator who would be happy to help you via e-mail. Ms. Steen's e-mail is ddsteen@seattleschools.org. *The Greater Seattle Bureau of Fearless Ideas* located in Greenwood is another free tutoring resource: <http://fearlessideas.org/>

SERVICE LEARNING

What is Service Learning and how many hours are required for graduation?

Service Learning is volunteer work done by students on their own time for a non-profit agency or organization, preferably in an area of interest to the student. 60 hours of Service Learning are required by the time of graduation.

Do hours done the summer before 9th grade count?

Beginning with the Class of 2017, students may fulfill up to 15 hours of their service learning graduation requirement during the summer between 8th and 9th grade as long as it meets the criteria set by the school.

Are students required to do a certain number of hours per year or is it just the total of 60 that's required?

To assist students in planning and to help them not put off their hours until the last minute of senior year, our health classes (which most students take in 9th grade) require 20 hours of Service Learning as part of the class. In 10th grade, 20 more hours or a plan for what students plan to do are required via history classes. All documentation forms are turned in to the Counseling Center.

Is there anyone at school who can help my student find meaningful Service Learning opportunities?

Yes -- Grayce Mitchell is our Service Learning Coordinator. She is on campus two-three days per week. She meets with every ninth grader in health class to help them find options that suit their interests, and she also meets with upperclassmen throughout the year. She also maintains a Service Learning bulletin board outside the Counseling Office where she posts opportunities for Service Learning. The monthly list of service learning opportunities, along with the district's service learning documentation form, can also be found on the BHS website under the tab "services". (gamitchell@seattleschools.org)

ATTENDANCE

If my student is ill, what do I do to excuse the absence?

Send an e-mail or a note bearing your signature, phone number, reason for absence, and dates of absence with your student the first day they return to school. The student must turn in this note to the Attendance Office within three days if the absence is to be excused. Phone calls to the Attendance Office will not excuse an absence.

If my student will be ill for many days, how can I access homework?

The best way to access homework if your student is ill is to check the Schoology Pages and the Source, and/or e-mail the teachers directly. Also, encourage your student to contact a fellow student for the homework assignment.

Do students lose credit in a class for poor attendance?

Students may lose credit if they miss too many classroom participation points or if their absences are unexcused and therefore they cannot turn in make-up work for credit. Each teacher establishes their class participation policy, so check course syllabi for details. Per state law, students who are excessively truant, meaning 20 consecutive days of unexcused absence, are dropped from Ballard High School.

ATHLETICS

What does my student have to do if he/she wishes to play a sport?

Fill out the Sports Paperwork Packet available in the Main Office or on-line at www.ballardhs.seattleschools.org and turn in by the deadlines stated in the paperwork, including proof of insurance and physical. The ASB Activity Card and sport fees have to be paid at the time the paperwork is handed in. Paperwork will not be accepted without the fee payment. A current physical is required. Physicals are good for two years but physical information from middle schools does not follow a student to high school. Students either need an updated physical or a copy of a physical done within the last two years to hand in with their paperwork. The physical must have the date of the physical and say they are cleared to participate in sports. Students must also be academically eligible to participate in sports, including passing at least 5 full credit classes with at least a C average. Students should check with their coaches early and often to make sure they are meeting these eligibility requirements. Detailed information on all of these requirements is included in the Sports Paperwork Packet. More athletic information can be found at www.ballardathletics.org

If our family qualifies as low-income, can we get assistance for this fee?

Yes. If your family qualifies for free/reduced lunch, the fees are reduced. See your Sports Paperwork Packet for details.

Are there free sports physicals available?

Yes. The Ballard Teen Health Center in the Commons offers free sports physicals (and immunizations as well). Please call 784-2142 to schedule an appointment.

Whom should I contact with questions about sports paperwork or to get the contact number of a coach?

Please contact the Athletic Secretary at 252-1147.

HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

What is the Ballard Teen Health Center?

The Ballard Teen Health Center is located in the Commons and is a collaboration between Ballard High School, Public Health-Seattle/King County, and Swedish Medical Center. Staff includes a nurse practitioner, a mental-health counselor, and a patient-care coordinator. Students may be seen by appointment. Services are free. The THC is committed to helping adolescents achieve wellness and success in all aspects of life. An information sheet will be included in the First Day Packet and more information is available at www.ballardhs.seattleschools.org under “Services.”

If I am concerned that my student may be depressed or need emotional counseling, whom should I contact?

Contact your family doctor for a possible referral. You can also contact the Teen Health Center, the school nurse or your student’s school counselor.

If my student has a health-related problem such as a chronic illness, injury, or severe allergy which might affect my student at school, whom should I contact? Annette Cologna, School Nurse, alcologna@seattleschools.org

If I have a general concern but do not know whom to call, whom should I contact?

Please call the school counselor. We can help determine which person would best be able to help you.

If I am concerned that my student may be using drugs or alcohol, whom should I contact?

Please contact your family doctor for referrals so as to maximize insurance possibilities. You may also call the school nurse or the Teen Health Center for a referral list of local agencies that provide drug testing, counseling, and out-patient or in-patient referrals. We also have a chemical dependency counselor here once a week.

If I am concerned that my student is being harassed or bullied, including cyber-bullying or social media, whom should I contact?

Harassment and bullying are serious issues and are not to be tolerated. Please contact the student's assistant principal immediately