



Friday, Feb. 26, 2021

Hi Everyone,

We are at the halfway point of the third quarter. That means taking stock of where we are academically, thinking about the end of this year and classes for next year. For seniors, it means beginning to plan for graduation and next year, for juniors, it means planning for the college application process and other post-high school opportunities, and for freshmen and sophomores, it means choosing their classes for next year. We are making plans for next year's schedule. Students will begin requesting courses on March 15. The course offerings will be sent next Friday.

The daily schedule is undetermined at this point. In the past two years, we've had a block schedule with 70 minute classes, and a more traditional schedule with 43 minute classes. While we are still working on the mechanics of the daily schedule, we do know that teachers and local students will be expected to be fully in-person at the school next year. Exceptions to that will be subject to medical or other documentation. As we know more about next year, of course we will let you know. Lots of announcements below....

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Jason O'Reilly. Jason is our Social Sciences department chair and long time US history and AP US History teacher. Jason has been hired to be our new Academic Dean beginning next year. He replaces yours truly as I move into the Head of School role.

VACCINES

The governor's office released a revised vaccine schedule today. Unfortunately for teachers, it doesn't not really prioritize school staff. Rather, it organizes all vaccines by age group, regardless of occupation. The dates from their announcement are below.

- March 3: Eligibility expands to residents age 60 and older
- April: Eligibility expands to age 50 and older
- May: Eligibility expands to age 40 and older
- June: Eligibility expands to age 30 and older
- July and beyond: Ages 29 and under, including children pending authorization of a vaccine for them

So, all people who are 60 or older are eligible for vaccines beginning Wednesday next week. Everyone over 50 will be eligible in April, over 40 in May, and so on. This may accelerate if the supply increases (like with the addition of the new J&J vaccine), but at the moment, this is the schedule we have.

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Monday - Purple Day

Tuesday - White Day

Wednesday - Online Day

Thursday - Purple Day

Friday - White Day

ART SHOW

The John Bapst Fine Arts department has just released its Winter Art Show. Like everything, it is virtual this year. Though we have been separated from each other, our kids and teachers can still collaborate to produce some fantastic art work. Check out the show at this link. <https://artshow.johnbapst.org/>

FINAL EXAMS

Due to the ongoing pandemic conditions, John Bapst will not have final exams this spring. Classes will end on June 4 as scheduled.

JOHN BAPST PROJECT GRADUATION TALENT SHOW

We are actively recruiting student talent for our virtual talent show. Interested students should contact Ms. Bennett at sbennett@johnbapst.org.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Next week, the school will send progress reports home to those students who are earning a grade below 77 in any classes. You can check grades online at any time, but progress reports serve as an additional alert that a student is at risk in a class. If you have questions about your student's grade in any class, please contact the teacher.

AP EXAMS

The school has decided that AP exams will be optional this year. We are expecting to hear information from the College Board next week that will help us decide which testing dates work best for our students. More to come!

FOR SENIORS

Parents and students are invited to join me and Mr. MacKay for a Graduation Planning Zoom meeting on Tuesday, March 2 at 7:30 p.m. Click on this link to add the event to your calendar: <https://networkmaine.zoom.us/j/84904174958>

PROJECT GRADUATION

The Project Graduation Committee is asking school families to help give the seniors something special when they graduate. We know we cannot have the usual PG event at UMaine this year so we plan to send our seniors off with a memorable gift bag.

Maybe you or your business can help by:

- Making a monetary donation of any amount - \$100 would fully fund one senior's gift bag.
- Donating an item for each gift bag. There are approximately 100 seniors.
- Picking up Clynk bags from the foyer at school, fill them with your returnables and drop them off at any Hannaford.
- Donating a raffle prize.
- Buying raffle tickets.

Please contact Mary Lammert (mlammert@johnbapst.org) with any questions. If you choose to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to John Bapst Memorial High School and note Project Graduation in the memo line and send to Mary Lammert at the school.

NHS CALENDAR RAFFLE

The John Bapst National Honor Society presents its 2021 Spring Calendar Raffle!

Click on this link for more information:

<https://www.johnbapst.org/news/the-national-honor-society-march-calendar-affle/>

YEARBOOK ORDERING

Go to www.jostensyearbooks.com to order your yearbook. Deadline to order is April 15.

BUY A YEARBOOK AD

Click here for information on buying a yearbook ad. [Senior Recognition Ad Info for Yearbook.pdf](#)

COVID

For all Covid related questions, please contact a school nurse (swaring@johnbapst.org or rolmstead@johnbapst.org).

If your student has any symptoms at all - sniffles, cough, sneezing, and so on - they should stay home. We are all used to diagnosing and treating minor ailments but covid symptoms are almost identical to common cold symptoms and it is better to err on the side of caution.

If anyone in your household tests positive for COVID-19 or comes in close contact with someone who has tested positive, please contact a school nurse.

A reminder that we are following the CDC guidelines for out of state travel, the link is here: <https://www.maine.gov/covid19/restartingmaine/keepmainehealthy/faqs>.

Please contact the school if you are planning out of state travel.

Have a great week!

Go Crusaders!

Dave

Dave Armistead

Associate Head of School