

August 2020 BlueSky Online Newsletter

Welcome to the 2020-21 school year!

Hello BlueSky Parents and Guardians!

We are excited to start another great school year on September 8th. All returning students are encouraged to attend a live welcome back session on September 8th to learn about changes taking place this year and review student expectations. New students will complete an orientation prior to the start of the school year that will be scheduled during the enrollment process.

We appreciate your support in having your student prepared to start their classes on the first day of school.

Did you know that many students and parents hear about BlueSky through word of mouth? If you know someone that is looking for another school setting please let them know about BlueSky and share your story. We currently have a waiting list for most grade levels for 2020-2021 school year but are planning to add sections to meet the increased enrollment demand. Applications should be completed as soon as possible to secure a spot on our waiting list for the best chance of acceptance.



School Supplies

What do you need for school?

To get you prepared to kick off the 2020-2021 school year, we have a list of supplies to ensure that you have the tools to be successful!

Please remember that your child will need many of the same school supplies that they needed in a brick and mortar school. It is recommended that all students have the following materials.

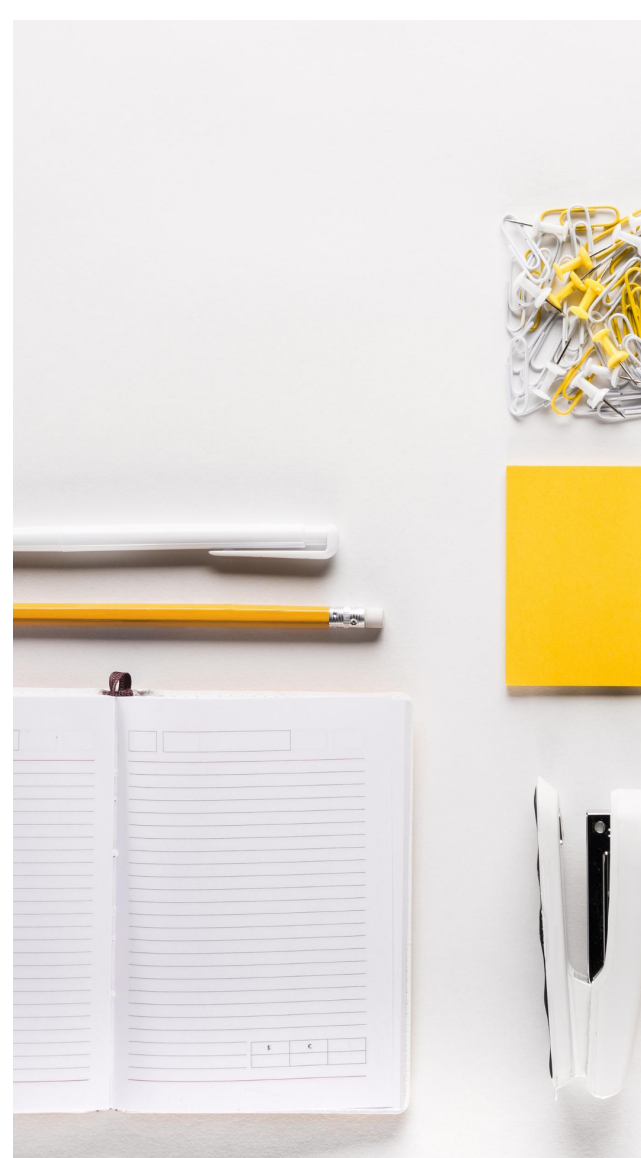
Recommended:

- Pens/pencils
- Folders
- Notebooks
- Colored pencils (art and science classes)
- Printer
- Planner/calendar
- Course specific materials (review [course catalogue](#))

Required:

- Headset (or mic and speakers)
- Daily access to Windows 7 or higher/Mac OS 10.7 or higher computer (iPads and Chromebooks may work for some courses but are not fully supported)
- High speed internet

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Counselor Corner

Important PowerSchool Information

Students should check their schedules by logging into PowerSchool. (Username is the first part of your email and the password is the same as when you log into Moodle.) Classes for the year can be found under "Next Year's Schedule."

If you have any questions or concerns about your schedule or credits, please contact your BlueSky School Counselor. Any schedule changes need to be completed **no later than Monday, September 14th.**

Mark Your Calendar

- September 8th, 2020: First Day of School
- October 6th, 2020: Parent Teacher Conference (no live student/staff sessions)
- October 15th-16th, 2020: No School
- November 6th, 2020: Last day of first quarter
- November 6th, 2020: Half student day
- November 9th, 2020: First day of second quarter
- November 26-27, 2020: No school
- December 24, 2020 - January 1, 2021: No school
- January 21-22, 2021: No school (staff only)
- January 20, 2021: Last day of second quarter
- January 25, 2021: First day of third quarter
- February 15, 2021: No school
- February 26, 2021: TBD Field Trip/Social Event
- March 11-12, 2021: No school (staff only)
- March 26, 2021: Last day of third quarter
- March 26, 2021: Half student day
- March 27, 2021 - April 2, 2021: No school
- April 5, 2021: First day of fourth quarter
- May 31, 2021: No school
- June 3, 2021: Last day of school

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Courses



Check out new electives offered!

Along with other electives, students will be able to choose from new electives that will expand their knowledge and real-world experiences. Click "Read More" to see the full list of courses for both middle and high school.

[READ MORE](#)

- **My Big Back Yard 7:** Students will explore nature and the environment from their own backyard!
- **BizVenture 8:** This course offers entrepreneurial coursework and learning experiences in the business world.
- **Road Trip USA 8:** Students will plan a virtual road trip and learn about budgets, states, and travel.
- **Creative Writing 9-12:** This course includes writing workshops and opportunities to edit essays and enhance writing techniques.
- **21st Century Communications 11-12:** Explore social media, your digital footprint, online practices, and critical reading of sources.
- **Manufacturing, Product Design and Innovation 10-12:** Learn more about careers as engineers, technicians, and supervisory management as well as manufacturing processes and creating products.
- **Travel Scandinavia 10-12:** In this course, students will learn about hospitality, tourism, and international business in Scandinavian countries.
- **Work Experience Seminar 10-12:** Students will learn about employment, safety, laws, conflict management, and communication in the workplace.
- **Youth Apprenticeship On-The-Job Training 11-12:** Manufacturing Processes Youth Apprenticeship provides students with a manufacturing processes internship.
- **American Sign Language 19-12:** Introduction to vocabulary, simple sentences, history, traditions, and more.

COVID-19 Updates



Staying Sanitary

Staying healthy and safe is our number one priority for staff, students, and parents and guardians. At the office, we are practicing social distancing and keeping surfaces and offices sanitary.

Remember to check the CDC's guidelines and Governor Walz's regulations to stay safe!

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html><https://mn.gov/governor/covid-19/news/>



Coming to BlueSky

We are excited to have you back at BlueSky and we have some guidelines in place to ensure that we stay safe! We are following MDH and MDE's protocols. Your health and safety is our priority.

Please look through our Crisis Team's plan and reach out to us before coming into BlueSky!

[BlueSky 2020-2021 COVID-19 Plan](#)

New Office



We have a brand new office and have been updating our Facebook page with new photos of our Bloomington office. Be sure to check them out!



Our new seating areas will provide all different types of seating and spots to accommodate to everyone's learning preferences. We are excited to safely have students come back!