

## September 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 at 9:00 a.m.** 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 was scheduled during the enrollment process.

**Live Welcome Back Session Zoom Link for Students:**  
<https://moodle.blueskyschool.org/mod/zoom/view.php?id=203749>

**Live Welcome Back Session Zoom Link for Parents:**  
<https://zoom.us/j/9330048430?pwd=VltoMnZlZlhaRmZlMzJlMjEwZW1hZ25lOTQ9S250UkZlc0p1>  
Password: bluesky20

For **tech support**, please fill out a ticket [here](#).

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



### 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.)

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**.

**New Students**- Welcome to BlueSky! You should have received a Welcome Email with information and instructions on how to get started with your New Student Orientation course in Moodle. When you enrolled, you also signed up for a Live Orientation Session. You will get a reminder of your session and information on how to log into the live session on the morning of your scheduled session. If you have questions about logging into the orientation course, or regarding your live session date and time, please contact [wst@blueskyschool.org](mailto:wst@blueskyschool.org).

### 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 catalogs](#))

#### 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
- Check out the [Tech Requirements](#) [here](#).

[READ MORE](#)



### Supplemental

#### Announcements

We are excited to welcome our new and returning supplemental students! We're looking forward to a great year of connecting and supporting your growth as a student.

Some **announcements** for you:

- **New supplemental students** - You will be receiving an email on September 1st from Jill Hunt that includes your login information, as well as instructions on how to login and complete your online orientation course. Please complete this course before school starts on Tuesday, September 8th.
- **Returning supplemental students** - You will be receiving a login refresher email on September 1st from Heidi Housh (because it's been awhile!).
- **All supplemental students** - Keep an eye on your BlueSky email next week (this will be a great habit to develop...checking your BlueSky email account). We'll be sending an email that includes an introduction to Heidi and Jill (your Supplemental peeps), as well as a link to a brief student survey to help us get to know you.
- **All supplemental students** - If we haven't yet received signed paperwork from you, you'll be hearing from us soon.
- **Questions?** We're here to help! Contact **Heidi Housh** ([heidi.housh@blueskyschool.org](mailto:heidi.housh@blueskyschool.org)) or **Jill Hunt** ([jill.hunt@blueskyschool.org](mailto:jill.hunt@blueskyschool.org))



### 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 26, 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

[READ MORE](#)



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### Resources

#### Contact Information for Questions and Resources

Main Line: 651-642-0888

[Staff List with Contact Information](#)

**Office** - enrollment, transcripts, record requests  
[Amy Larsen](#) - Superintendent/Executive Director  
[Dan Ondich](#) - Principal & Assistant Director  
[Renée Parcheta](#) - Principal & Student Services Director  
[Cathy Parker](#) - Dean of Students  
[Heidi van der Haegen](#) - Director of Special Education  
[Sara Her](#) - Student Information Specialist  
[John Mizcar](#) - Registrar  
[Melissa Vane](#) - Testing Coordinator  
[Jenny Bakke](#) - Admin Assistant

**Counselors** - scheduling and class changes  
[Dawn Mensier](#)  
[Grant Cameron](#)  
[Amy Chicoine](#)  
[Jennifer Anderson](#)  
[Carla Diekmann](#)

**Advisors** - navigating school  
[Laura Welck](#)  
[Danielle Eckler](#)  
[Dawn Nicol](#)  
[Carrie Ostman](#)  
[Sean Miller](#)  
[Jennifer Harding](#)  
[Kelly Hanson](#)  
[Hanna Coleman](#)

**Social Workers** - school, family, and personal concerns, well-being, crisis assistance  
[Caroyn Dirsch](#)  
[Cassie Hammett](#)  
[Cayla Rother](#)  
[April Schamberger](#)  
[Lynn Eiche](#)

**Supplemental**  
[Heidi Housh](#)  
[Jill Hunt](#)



### 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 Walk'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](#)