Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome new and returning families to Strath Haven High School! I hope that you have enjoyed the summer months so far and I am excited to share some information with you about the upcoming school year. Our staff has been working diligently to prepare classrooms, student schedules, and the high school grounds since June, and we eagerly await the arrival of students in the coming weeks!

Included in this letter is information regarding many school activities and important topics in preparation for the school year. All documents, informational fliers, and forms may be found on the high school website. Please review each section of this letter carefully, utilize the website for access to any materials relevant to your child, and contact us at 610-892-3470 x2100 with any questions. Phone extensions are listed below for our staff:

- Doris Ford, x2100 (parking permits, access to MMS portal, House Bill #10, lockers)
- Donna Rucker, x2105 (diploma verification, student information form, online forms)
- Elisa Clark, x2117 (transcripts, course credit checks, guidance bulletin)
- Deborah Sherman, x2181 (athletics)
- Patti Diaferio, x1702 (bus transportation)

School Calendar
The 2019-2020 school calendar is posted on the website under the About SHHS tab.

Student Schedules
The student/parent portal (PowerSchool) will open on Thursday, August 15th. At this time, you will be able to see your child’s schedule of classes and teachers. Lunch periods will not be assigned until August 31, but may continue to be modified through the first week of classes.

Beginning Monday, August 19, we ask that only students, and students who do not have a complete eight (8) class schedule or a full schedule for blocks 1-4, make appointments to meet with Mrs. LaPira, Dr. Matsanka, or Mr. McLaughlin.

In completing the master schedule, careful attention has been paid to class size and individual student balance. Student requests have dictated the number of sections of each course, and the combination of student selections and teacher availability has dictated the assignment of students to particular sections. Students may not be scheduled for all of the courses that were listed in the June course request mailing. If students provided them, alternate selections were built into the schedule as a replacement.

Beginning Monday, August 26, requests for schedule changes will be considered for all students who wish to select a different elective, provided the request will not adversely affect class size and provided the class is not already closed. Requests for schedule changes will also be considered for students whose schedules do not reflect a balance between core courses and electives provided such a change is possible. **Requests for schedule changes based on teacher preference will not be considered.**

During the week of August 19, the administrative team will be preparing for the start of the new school year and participating in the new teacher induction program so our availability will be limited for schedule change requests. On Monday, August 19 through Thursday, August 22 some of our school counselors will be available to assist with schedule change requests for all students. During that time students can try to make appointments with members of the
administrative team or visit the counseling office for help with schedule change requests. Students are encouraged to see any counselor who is available during those times for these requests.

Chromebook 1:1
Students will be able to pick up their Chromebooks beginning August 13 through August 22. All students must bring with them a signed Chromebook User Agreement (attached). Devices will be available during the following time slots:

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

August 13-16: 12th Grade Students + New Students
August 19-22: 9th Grade + 11th Grade Students

We encourage all students to pick up their devices prior to the start of the school year. Any new student in the 10th grade should report during the week of August 13 to pick up their device.

Senior Class Items of Interest
Transcript and Course Credit Form
Next week seniors will receive a hard copy of their transcript and a listing of our graduation requirements and their progress towards meeting those requirements. Seniors should review these documents carefully and direct any questions to their guidance counselor.

School Counseling Department and Post-Secondary Planning
Seniors were notified in June to access the College Planning Guide under the Guidance tab of the school website to obtain information on post-secondary planning, and processing a college application. Seniors interested in vocational, technical or military options after graduation may find information available on the guidance page of the high school website, as well. Please review these documents and submit all relevant forms in a timely manner to the Counseling Office Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Elisa Clark.

Seniors applying to post-secondary programs must submit both a paper transcript request form and an electronic request through Naviance. To access your Naviance account, make sure your email address is valid and that you remember your password. If you do not remember your password, please see visit the guidance office for assistance. Also, as some of you begin to register with the common application online, please write down your user name and account number. This information will be needed for Naviance. Counselors will meet with seniors during the first few weeks of school to clarify precisely how the application process will work. The counselors will be available after that meeting to address any additional questions or concerns.

Parking
Seniors may apply for a parking permit during the month of August. Seniors will be considered for parking if you are enrolled in a program during the school day for which we do not provide transportation, or if you have an extremely urgent medical need. Parking applications for seniors who do not meet either of these criteria will be reviewed and approved as space permits, once those who meet the criteria are assigned a space. Forms may be downloaded from the website or picked up in the main office, and should be submitted to the main office by Friday, August 23. Questions regarding parking applications should be directed to Mr. Tom McLaughlin.

Junior Class Items of Interest
Parking
Parking will be limited to seniors who meet the criteria defined earlier in this letter. Should spaces open for juniors, Mr. McLaughlin will notify students after September 10th of the opportunity to apply. The only exception to this rule is juniors who are enrolled in an approved course at a college or university during the school day. These juniors only should apply for parking during the month of August. Please note, that due to a limited amount of parking spaces, even juniors who are enrolled in an approved course at a college or university during the school day may not be guaranteed a parking space.

Standardized Testing and the Post-secondary Planning Process
Juniors and their parents are encouraged to access the Counseling tab of the website for a wealth of information regarding important testing dates throughout the school year, as well as guidelines for post-secondary planning. All juniors are encouraged to take the PSAT in school on October 16th. Registration will occur through the main office beginning August 12th. The registration form may be found in hard copy in the main office of the high school. The deadline for registration is September 13, 2019.

Online “Summer Mailing” Packet Required for All Students
The Registrar, Mr. Derrick Clements, has provided information to parents regarding a required online review of the information included in our database for your child, as well as your child’s bus transportation information. All high school email blasts are sent using this database, so please make certain to include a valid email address for yourself, if one is not already included. This form includes, among others, the following important items for revision and approval:

1. Student Information: This allows the nurse to treat your child and must be completed every year, including medical history, permission to administer medication while in school, with a current signature and date. Without the completed form your child will not be able to receive any treatment excluding emergent care. It is imperative this information is reviewed and corrected or confirmed online in a timely manner.
2. Acceptable Use Policy 815A: This allows your child to access district technology and explains the expectations for student use. Please choose “Yes” or “No.”
3. House Bill #10 (Juniors and Seniors Only): The names, addresses, and phone numbers of seniors and juniors must by law be released to local military recruiters in September of each year, unless a student and/or parent requests removal from the list we distribute by completing this form.
4. Diploma Verification (Seniors Only): Parents of seniors must complete this form to verify the full name you prefer on your child’s Strath Haven High School diploma.
5. Google Apps for Education: This allows your child to access district sites utilized by teachers in classroom instruction. Please choose “Yes” or “No.”
6. Photo Consent: This allows your child’s photo to be posted on the district and high school webpages, and to be shared with local newspapers in the event your child is recognized for an award, participates in a school activity, etc. for which a photo is requested.

Lockers
Students wishing to have a locker must purchase a Strath Haven High School combination lock before you are assigned a locker at the high school. Locks will be sold during the last week of August in the 1st Floor Office and at all student lunches for the first two weeks of school. Locks are sold for $5.00 and they may be used for the student’s entire tenure at the high school. A lock received from a graduating sibling or friend is perfectly acceptable, if it was a Masterlock purchased at Strath Haven High School.

Dress Code
The high school and middle school administration have continued to work collaboratively to define and enforce the dress standards for our students to better prepare them for the world of professional work and adulthood. The standards may be found in the Student Handbook, and are available on the schools’ websites. Administrators will review the dress code with students during the first week of school. In the interim, parents are advised to review the handbook and work with your children to make certain clothing purchases for the new school year will meet our standards.

Food Services
Free and Reduced Lunch
Applications for free or reduced lunch are available on our website under the About SHHS tab. Please complete and submit to Barbara Downs, Business Office Secretary, WSSD, 200 South Providence Road, Wallingford, PA 19086. If you would like to receive a paper copy of the application, please contact Mrs. Downs directly at 610-892-3470 x 1305.

Secondary Arrival and Dismissal Procedures
Please follow established procedures for car transportation at the high school. Only high school faculty, students with parking assignments in the Brookhaven senior lot, and school bus traffic may use the Brookhaven entrance. All high school car drop-off and pick-up should occur at the Providence Road entrance.
Health-Related Items

Senior Class Immunization Requirement:
The Department of Health requires all 12th grade students to have a second dose of the Meningococcal vaccine at 16 years of age or older. A child may still obtain a medical, religious or philosophical/strong moral or ethical conviction from meeting the immunization requirements. Exemption status must be submitted in writing. **Documentation must be received by September 10, 2019. After that date, your child will not be permitted to attend school until proof is received.** School Nurse, Mrs. Deborah Sweeney will be available during Back to School Night to accept proof of immunization.

Voluntary Student Accident Insurance
WSSD does NOT carry medical/accidental insurance for students, but does provide you access to an accident plan through the same company that carries our athletic insurance – United States Fire Insurance Company. This plan pays benefits from the first dollar, no deductible, and pays in addition to any other insurance. An application and brochure that describes benefits and prices is available on the high school website under the About SHHS tab in Forms at www.wssd.org. To purchase the coverage, simply complete the application, enclose a check or money order, and return the application directly to the insurance company at the address on the brochure. If you do not have internet access and would like a brochure printed for you, please contact Doris Ford at extension 2100. If you have any questions, contact AG Administrators, Inc. @ www.agadministrators.com or by telephone @ (610)-933-0800.

District Medication Policy
The board policy on the administration of medication may be found on the district website under board policies, as well as on the high school website under the About SHHS tab. If your student is taking medication in the nurse’s office during the school day please have a parent/guardian bring the medication to school along with the doctor’s prescription in an original pharmacy bottle. No student may carry any medication without a doctor’s prescription and completed self-carry medication form on file.

Physical Forms
If your child is in eleventh grade it is a requirement of the Department of Education that a physical be completed and submitted to the nurse. All students must also have a completed information form on file, which includes emergency information and current health information which assist us in providing quality care for our students. The form can be obtained from the district website and the health services department. This form is different from and may not be substituted by the athletic physical form of the PIAA.

Health Forms
If your student has any health forms, doctor notes, or updated treatment plans to be returned to the nurse they may be submitted on the first day of school or dropped off in the main office to the attention of Mrs. Deborah Sweeney, School Nurse. For any questions, please call Mrs. Sweeney at x2141.

Band and Bandfront
Students are reminded that Bandfront, Captains and Percussion Camp will begin on August 19th, with the full Marching Band assembling for camp on Monday, August 26th. Contact Nick Pignataro with any questions at npignataro@wssd.org.
**Athletics**

*Fall Sports*

Students interested in trying out for a fall sport are reminded that pre-season practices and tryouts begin on Monday, August 12 for all sports programs except JV and Varsity Football, which began Monday, August 5. Annual physical forms can be obtained by accessing the PIAA website at [www.piaa.org](http://www.piaa.org) or under the high school website’s *Athletics* tab, and must be completed and submitted no later than the first day of pre-season. Please direct questions about athletics to Athletic Director, Mr. Patrick Clancy, at extension 2180 or his secretary, Mrs. Deborah Sherman, at extension 2181.

**All-Sports Boosters**

The SHHS All-Sports Boosters have been generous in making donations that have upgraded our weight and cardio rooms, contributed to our field improvements, and provided equipment and valuable financial support to our teams. An informational flyer and request for parent involvement in the Boosters is available on our website under the *About SHHS* and *Athletics* tabs. Please consider supporting this terrific group and our student-athletes!

**Clubs and Extracurricular Activities**

The activities fair will be held on September 12 during the school day for all 9th grade students and students new to school to introduce them to the many opportunities to become involved in the extracurricular life of our school. All students will be able to sign up for clubs during lunches on September 12th – 13th. A directory of clubs will be available on our website under the *Activities* tab. Please encourage your child to be involved!

**First Day of School**

*Freshman/New Student Orientation* will take place from 7:35 a.m. until 10:05 a.m. on Tuesday, September 3rd. Transportation will be provided for all ninth graders and new students in grades 10, 11, and 12 at the regular start time, and orientation will begin promptly at 7:35 a.m. Students should report to the cafeteria to find their orientation classroom. Buses will be on a 3-hour delay for all tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students. The schedule on the first day is as follows:

- 7:35-10:05 Freshman/New Student Orientation
- 10:35-11:10 Block One
- 11:15-11:45 Block Two
- 11:50-12:20 A lunch (3A); Blocks 3B, 3C in class
- 12:25-12:55 B lunch (3B); Blocks 3A, 3C in class
- 1:00-1:30 C lunch (3C); Blocks 3A, 3B in class
- 1:35-2:05 Block Four

Students in grades 10, 11, and 12 should note your fall semester first block classroom on your schedule, and report to class no later than 10:35 a.m. on Tuesday, September 4. Lunch schedules will be available in PowerSchool before the first day of school.

**Back-to-School Night**

We have planned our first Back-to-School Night for Thursday, September 5 at 7:00 p.m. Parents are encouraged to report to your child’s first block classroom no later than 6:50 p.m. Parents of vocational students should plan to arrive no later than 7:50 p.m. to the Counseling Office, where Ms. Smith will provide schedules for blocks three and four.

**Home and School Association**

Strath Haven is fortunate to have an active parent/teacher organization that sponsors events and supports the school by providing funds for items requested by faculty and staff. This year’s HSA President, Paula Koziol ([pkzta92@gmail.com](mailto:pkzta92@gmail.com)), invites all moms, dads, legal guardians, and others to visit the Home and School page through the high school website to find ways to get involved in the Strath Haven experience. You can also stay up to date by becoming a fan on Facebook ([https://www.facebook.com/shhshomeandschool](https://www.facebook.com/shhshomeandschool)) and keeping abreast of the weekly Home and School eBlast. If you are not receiving the weekly eBlast, please email Paula. The HSA has been active this summer preparing the 2019-20 SHHS Directory, which will be available to purchase on Back-to-School Night, September 5. Directory Sales are the only fundraiser run by the HSA and purchasing one or two directories (just $12 each) will help fund most of our activities for the year—so please be sure to buy your directory that night! The first Home and School meeting will be on Thursday, September 12 at 6:00 p.m. Please join us!
Thank you for your time and attention to this letter and its contents. We look forward to an exciting new school year, and to greeting students in September!

Sincerely,

Kristopher Brown, Ed.D.
Principal

C: Lisa Palmer, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
   Denise Citarelli-Jones, Ed.D., Director of Secondary Education
   Megan McCullough, Ed.D., Director of Student Services, Behavioral Health
   Ferg Abbott, Director of Human Resources & Operations
   Patti Diaferio, Director of Transportation
   Derrick Clements, Educational Data Systems Manager