



THIS IS AN UPDATED LETTER

Dear BGA Students and Families,

September 6, 2021

On behalf of the entire Boston Green Academy staff, welcome back and happy new year! This year promises to be a great one, with several new opportunities for students and our continued commitment to ensure BGA is a school where you can believe, grow and achieve. We also remain deeply committed to your health and wellbeing and are taking numerous steps to make sure school can run safely this year. Your courage, resilience and dedication are inspiring and deeply appreciated. We can't wait to see you on the first day of school, **Thursday, September 9th at 8am!**

Here are some key things for you to know as we get ready for the new school year:

- **Health & Safety-** All classes are in-person this year with no remote option. Your health and safety are extremely important to us: all students and staff are required to wear masks inside BGA's building. Everyone should use the [BPS Health Checklist](#) everyday- do not come to school if you have any symptoms. Parents/guardians may visit BGA by appointment but otherwise may not come inside at this time and should wait outside during drop off and pick up. Thank you for your understanding.
- **COVID Testing at School-** Free weekly COVID testing will be available for all students and staff at school but you must agree to opt-in to the testing program. BPS emailed you a unique electronic consent form on August 27- if you haven't signed it already please do so. If you can't find that BPS email, please return the [testing consent form](#) to school right away.
- **COVID Vaccination-** We strongly urge all students aged 12 and above and their family members to get vaccinated for COVID-19 immediately. This is the best way to protect yourself against the virus and keep our community safe. For free vaccination clinic locations, click [here](#).
- **BGA Vaccination Clinic-** BGA and Boston Medical Center will be hosting a free and voluntary vaccination clinic at school open to all students, families, and members of the public. Please join us for a BGA Virtual Community Meeting on Monday, September 13 from 6-7pm on Zoom (link [here](#)) to discuss vaccines and have a pediatrician and school nurse answer all your questions. Vaccination shots will be available at BGA from 10am-6pm on Monday, September 20th and Thursday, October 14th. We hope you can participate so we can be as safe and healthy as possible.
- **Transportation-** BPS has mailed and emailed all bus assignments to families. If you have not received it, please contact BGA (617-635-9860) or BPS Transportation (617-635-9520). Unfortunately, BPS is predicting possible disruptions to yellow bus transportation at the start of the year due to a shortage of bus drivers and monitors. We will do everything we can to help, but if your child takes the yellow bus please have a backup plan in place to get them to/from school if their bus is unexpectedly cancelled or delayed.

- **New Opportunities-** We are very excited to offer new opportunities for BGA students this year that include: new music and dance classes (in a newly renovated auditorium!), cutting-edge science in our new [Freight Farm](#) outdoor growing space, more counselors and social workers, additional tutoring and academic support (including at least two adults in almost every classroom), new technology for our Maker Space, and the return of great BGA programs like Project Week, clubs, and special events. It's going to be a great year!
- **Arrival at School-** BGA middle school students should enter the building on the Cambridge St. side next to the BGA parking lot. BGA high school students should enter through the front steps at the corner of Warren and Cambridge Streets. Staff will greet you at both entrances to welcome you back!
- **School Schedule & Calendar-** Here is the [BGA Bell Schedule](#) and the [BPS calendar for 2021-22](#). A BGA supplement with school-specific dates and events will be shared after the start of school.
- **School Policies & Procedures-** Our [FAQ document](#) covers most of the major topics for middle and high school students to help you start the year, including transportation, supply lists and middle school uniform information. All students and families should also consult the [BGA Student & Family Handbook](#) and the [BPS Guide for Students and Families](#).
- **Summer Reading-** all students should complete the Summer Reading project. Details can be found at www.bostongreenacademy.org/library. The project is due on September 17.
- **Supply Lists-** Back to school supply lists can be found for all grades on the BGA website (www.bostongreenacademy.org).
- **Technology Support-** Students should bring their BPS chromebooks to school every day. If you do not have one, BGA will provide one for you on the first day of school. Do you need help logging in to Aspen or Jupiter Grades? Need support with email or the internet? Quick video tutorials for all BGA technology are available [here](#) (start with Aspen, tutorial is [here](#)).
- **Family Needs Survey-** we want to hear from you so we can provide what families need. Please fill out [this brief survey](#) here by the start of school.
- **After School Programs-** We are excited to once again partner with City Year to offer after-school tutoring at BGA four days per week. To sign up, please complete and return [this form](#). We also proudly partner with the [West End House Boys & Girls Club](#) in Allston/Brighton (just a short walk from BGA) for after school programs, tutoring, and great activities. To sign up for their offerings, [fill out their application here](#). Both programs are available on Wednesday afternoons when BGA has early dismissal.
- **Attendance-** With the return to in-person school for everyone, we want to see you! We are stepping up our attendance and tardiness monitoring to make sure that all students come to school every day and on time. Information on attendance policies can be found [here](#).
- **Sports-** We are proud to continue to co-op with Brighton High School for many of our sports this year. For Fall teams and tryouts, click [here](#). To sign up for a team, you must register in Aspen (directions [here](#)). We encourage everyone to participate, but please remember that a 2.0 GPA is required for eligibility. Don't forget: BGA's own Boston United basketball teams will continue this winter for students in grades 7-12!

Last year was hard but this year will be much better as long as we stay safe and healthy. Thanks for taking care of yourselves and each other. At BGA, we are here to support and challenge you to do your best every day. We know that you will succeed with hard work, dedication, and pride. We are here for you and look forward to a successful year. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact the BGA Main Office at 617-635-9860 (open 7:30am-3:30pm each school day) or check the BGA website at www.bostongreenacademy.org. Once again, Happy New Year and see you on Thursday, September 9th!

Best wishes,



Matt Holzer, Head of School
mholzer@bostongreenacademy.org

¡Bienvenido! Byenveni! Soo dhawow!
欢迎！ Bem vinda! Benvindu!
Go To
www.bostongreenacademy.org

For Further Information:

If you have questions, please feel to contact you student's Advisor, call the BGA Main Office (617-635-9860), or email any of the following people: (***=habla español**)

For attendance and general support:

Ms. Jennifer Rios* - Head Staff Assistant - jrios@bostongreenacademy.org

For scheduling and supports:

Ms. Vanessa Brea* - Middle School Counselor - vbrea@bostongreenacademy.org

Ms. Jodi Then - High School Counselor - jthen@bostongreenacademy.org

For new student enrollment:

Ms. Amanda Reveles* - Enrollment Coordinator - areveles@bostongreenacademy.org

For family support and outreach:

Mr. Michael Cabrera* - Family and Community Outreach Coordinator -
mcabrera@bostongreenacademy.org

For Special Education:

Ms. Maritza Ciliberto* - Director of Special Education - mciliberto@bostongreenacademy.org

For English Language Learners:

Ms. Alicia Eberle* - ESL Facilitator (HS) - aerberle@bostongreenacademy.org

Ms. Alexandra Ibarra Carmona* - ESL Facilitator (MS) - aibarracarmona@bostongreenacademy.org

For Transportation:

Mr. Jeff Becker- Assistant Principal - jbecker@bostongreenacademy.org

For Technology issues:

Mr. Ryne Deckard - Director of Technology - rdeckard@bostongreenacademy.org

For the Student Support Team:

Mr. Brian Gonsalves - Director of Student Support/Middle School Social Worker -

bgonsalves@bostongreenacademy.org

Mr. Regi Loving - Dean of Students - rloving@bostongreenacademy.org

Ms. Katonya Gaines* - Special Education Social Worker - kgaines@bostongreenacademy.org

Ms. Marlena Cesar-Mendez* - ELL Social Worker - mcesarmendez@bostongreenacademy.org

Mr. Winston Bennett- Middle School Student Support- wbennett@bostongreenacademy.org

Mr. Briea McDaniels - Middle School Student Support - bmcdaniels@bostongreenacademy.org

Ms. Jacqueline Sims - High School Student Support - jsims@bostongreenacademy.org

Mr. Taron Seaforth- High School Student Support - tseaforth@bostongreenacademy.org

Ms. Lauren Kelton* - High School Social Worker - lkelton@bostongreenacademy.org

For general questions:

Email info@bostongreenacademy.org and we'll pass it to the right people