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BLUE HILLS
REGIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

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February 23, 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As of December 2024, MCAS scores are no longer used to determine a student's Competency Determination (CD) for graduation purposes. As mandated by federal and state law, participation in the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) testing program continues to be a requirement for all students. The assessment serves several important functions in the evaluation of student achievement and school performance. Specifically, MCAS is required for the following purposes:

- All first-time grade 10 students must participate in MCAS testing
- Results are used for school and district accountability reporting
- Scores determine eligibility for:
    - The John and Abigail Adams Scholarship
    - The Stanley Z. Koplik Certificate of Mastery Award

The state is continuing the Next-Generation MCAS tests for ELA, Mathematics, and Science (Biology) for grade ten. These tests will be given electronically.

In order to facilitate this testing effectively, please review the following information carefully:

On Tuesday, March 24th we will be administering the **MCAS ELA Session 1** and on Wednesday, March 25th we will be administering the **MCAS ELA Session 2** to all sophomores at Blue Hills. On each day of testing, students are required to bring a fully charged Chromebook to school in order to complete the testing. If your student is having an issue with their Chromebook, please remind them to contact the IT Department here at Blue Hills to get the problem fixed.

Medical documentation is required for any student who misses a test session. The documentation will be required the first day the student returns to school. Please call the attendance office if your child is ill on an MCAS test day.

We know this can be a stressful time for young people. We ask that on these days you do everything possible to be sure that your child arrives at school well-rested and on time. In return, we'll do everything possible to provide a supportive and encouraging environment. In addition, we will provide breakfast and snacks, as well as lunch for any student who requires extended testing time.

We will be meeting with the students both before the testing dates to review the following:

- Testing will begin by 8:00 a.m. Promptness is essential.
- MCAS test regulations will be followed precisely.
- Students must bring their school-issued fully charged Chromebook to each testing session.
- No cell phones, smartwatches, smart glasses, or electronic devices (except Chromebooks) are allowed to be in a student's possession during testing. All cell phones and smartwatches will be collected by the test proctor. Students' names should be on phones/electronic devices.
- No notes can be brought to the testing room.
- Students can bring materials to the testing room to work on after testing. The test proctors will direct the students where to place such materials in the testing room.
- The MCAS is an untimed test; however, the school day cannot be extended.
- During breaks and after testing, students may not discuss the tests.

Any violation of the above testing regulations will result in the voiding of the test and appropriate notification to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the students well and to thank you for your continued support of Blue Hills Regional Technical School. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paul Bavuso
Academic Director
MCAS Test Coordinator