

April 27, 2026

Dear Parent or 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.

We successfully administered the ELA test in March, and are planning for the upcoming **Math MCAS on Tuesday, May 19 and Wednesday, May 20**. The math test, like the ELA test, will require students to bring their fully charged Chromebooks, as well as their chargers, to school on the day of testing. Any student having an issue with a Chromebook should contact the IT Department at Blue Hills as soon as possible to get the problem fixed.

On **Tuesday, June 2, and Wednesday, June 3**, we will be administering the **MCAS Biology** test. The Biology test will also require students to bring their fully charged Chromebooks to school.

For all MCAS sessions, 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 you can 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. We will also provide lunch for any student who requires extended testing time.

Students and parents/guardians should be reminded of the following procedures:

- 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 the math MCAS sessions (May 19 and May 20) and Science MCAS sessions (June 2 and 3).
- No cell phones, smart watches, smart glasses or electronic devices are allowed to be in a student's possession during testing. All cell phones and smart watches will be collected by the test proctor.
- 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, please do not hesitate to contact the academic office.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paul Bavuso
Academic Director