

SEVEN HILLS PREPARATORY ACADEMY
Bloomington Campus
School Year 2019 – 2020

August 13, 2019

Due to a technical issue with our emailing system, we have lost our subscribers list. Please [re-subscribe](#) to ensure you receive all future regular communications from Seven Hills. Thank you for your help with this issue!

Debido a un problema técnico con nuestro sistema de correo electrónico, hemos perdido nuestra lista de suscriptores. [Suscríbese](#) nuevamente para asegurarse de recibir todas las comunicaciones regulares futuras de Seven Hills. ¡Gracias por su ayuda con este problema!

Hello SHPA Families!

As we anticipate the return to school in the fall, I would like to share a few updates on behalf of myself and the Board of Directors. First, custodial and maintenance staffs at both campuses have been working hard cleaning carpets and waxing floors, and you will notice some new carpeting at our Bloomington Campus as well as some new painting at our Richfield Campus, where we are also excited to be moving forward with the installation of a solar panel array on the gymnasium roof! Second, the parent survey provided us with examples of success as well as opportunities for growth, including in the area of communication, which we will be focusing on in the year ahead to ensure all of our messaging to families is meaningful, accurate, and timely. Third and most importantly, we are so very grateful for the strong retention among our teaching staff, who are such hardworking and dedicated educators of the whole child. Our teachers are assisted by wonderful office teams, supported by caring paraprofessionals, and led by strong administrative and board leadership, and all of us are ready to serve you and your children over the course of another successful school year. Enjoy the rest of the summer--and we look forward to seeing you back at school soon!

Thank you,
Carl Schlueter, Executive Director

Message from the Interim Principal

Hello Bloomington Campus Students and Families!

We hope the last days of summer find you well, whether you are eagerly awaiting the start of another year (or the first!) or lamenting the waning summer (or both!). We are working diligently to get everything setup and sorted for another fantastic year. We are passionate about imparting a love of learning to our students and we absolutely couldn't do it without our committed and supportive families!

The [student handbook is attached](#) and there is lots of information below including a new approved snack list so please take the time to go through it all thoroughly.

Sincerely,
Brent Peterson, Interim Principal

General Information for Families for the 2019-20 School Year

School Calendar & Daily Schedule: The 2019-20 calendar and daily schedule are on our website. The school day remains 8:40 a.m. – 3:40 p.m. with drop-off after 8:15 a.m. and pickup by 3:40 p.m. Please observe the designated pickup and drop-off areas to ensure a safe, efficient process.

Transportation:

Busses - We are excited to be working again with Academy of Holy Angels Bus Company this school year. Bus transportation applications and fees were due this past June 14th. If bus applications or fees are turned in after June 14th a bus stop will be provided no sooner than three weeks after the start of the school year. This means that parents will have to transport their child(ren) to and from school for the first two weeks. Bussing questions can be directed to our Transportation Coordinator at bmattson@shpamn.org.

Family drop off/pick up - There are a few changes to our drop off and pick up procedures, so please take note and **see the [attached map](#) as well.**

Morning drop off - Students should only be dropped off in front of the building. Vehicles should enter from 14th Ave (West side) and exit on Bloomington Ave (East side). We ask that only students accompanied by a family member cross through traffic, if needing to access the building. We are asking vehicles to **pull all the way forward** to make our line more efficient.

Afternoon pick up - Any vehicle picking up multiple riders (siblings/carpools) will enter and exit the south parking lot from Bloomington Ave to pick up students at Door 1. Any vehicle picking up single riders will enter and exit the south parking lot from 88th St to pick up students at Door 4.

In order to expedite these systems, please avoid transportation changes the first two weeks unless an emergency necessitates it. Thank you!

School Hot Lunch Program

The September menu will be available for ordering school lunches August 14 – 22nd. ALL families wanting their student(s) to have school lunch MUST order and pay, if required, online.

If you do not order online by the due date you must provide a lunch for your student.

New families need to create an account for ordering school lunch. Please go to www.orgsonline.com and use school code 378SHPAMN to create an account. Once this is done you can place your school lunch order.

Our school uses PINs (Personal Identity Number) for lunch. After you have an account in Orgs, please email me and I will create a PIN for your student. The PIN will then be found in your ORGs account. The PIN will remain the same every year.

School lunches are ordered on a monthly basis. Please watch for information about ordering in the weekly school update, email from your teacher, and on the Orgsonline website. We order lunches from our caterer based on the number of requests made using Orgsonline. If your student does not have a home lunch and you did not order online, we will call home and ask that a lunch is brought to school.

The [Free and Reduced lunch application](#) is attached. Please feel free to email me mgihl@shpamn.org with any questions regarding school lunch.

Thank you, Monica Gihl

Uniform & Supplies: Our Uniform Dress Code and School Supply Lists are on our [website](#). Please follow the guidelines and ensure your child is ready for the first day of school! Just a reminder that students are now able to wear navy blue pants and skirts/skorts. Pants or shorts must be hemmed, and capri pants are okay. Leggings can replace tights and must be white, gray, or navy blue. Jeans and sweat pants are not acceptable. Baggy or oversized pants and bicycle shorts, cut-offs, short shorts or boxer shorts are also not allowed. Thank you for being attentive to the dress code!

BACK TO SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Elementary School - Monday, August 26th, 4:00-6:00pm.

During Open House we will have families complete a passport to ensure we have all necessary information for the start of school. Once items on the passport are completed families will be able to go visit the classroom and meet their teacher. If you have updated health or immunization information, please bring that along as well.

BEFORE SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS

Next week of August 19, 2018, you will receive a post card from your Elementary student's classroom teacher. You should also receive an email from your teacher with a link to sign up via Sign Up Genius. Use this link to sign up your student for a reading assessment with their teacher. Assessments will take place during the day of the Elementary Open House on Monday, August 29th. If possible, please sign up for a 30 minute time slot to have your student assessed in reading with your child's new teacher. Please note that our goal is to be able to assess as many students as we can, but we will

not be able to assess every one prior to school starting. That is okay! Students unable to come in prior that day will be assessed by their teacher when school begins.

**3rd grade students will have an additional assessment day. This email will come this week.*

STUDENT FEES

All families are asked to submit \$10 to cover student activity fees for the coming year. **This payment is required for every student** (4th grade will have an additional \$10 fee to cover the cost of recorders and music). Field Trip fees will be collected at the time of the trip for each grade level and are not included in this fee. Please remember to bring your checkbook or cash to pay these fees at the Open House. If you wish to pay online prior to or at Open House you may visit the school [website](#). Under Quick Links select “Pay School Fees”. This form of payment is conducted using The Square system. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Mattson at bmattson@shpmn.org

Character Education: We have a new brochure detailing our CARES that provides information and examples. We continue to partner with families to develop our amazing young people through the CARES. A true Classical education requires the development of high moral character as well as curious intellect. Please look out for this at our back to school open house!

Band Club

Instrument Tryouts

All SHPA 4th and 5th graders interested in joining band are welcome to visit Ms. Klemmer during Open House on **Monday, August 26th** between **4:00 PM and 6:00 PM** to tryout the band instruments in the **Kids Auditorium** (music room)! The instruments that will be available for tryouts during open house are Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone and Percussion.

Band Club Parent Night

A Groth Music Representative assisting in instrumental rentals will be at SHPA in the Kids Auditorium on **Thursday, September 19th** between **4:00 pm and 6:00 pm**.

Do you have your own instrument for Band Kids Club? Please bring the instrument to Open House for an inspection with Ms. Klemmer.

SHPA Band Club students will be part of a music community that will learn commitment, responsibility, patience, and grow confidence while having FUN playing an instrument to start their band journey!

If you have any questions or are unable to attend Open House, please reach out to Ms. Klemmer at mklemmmer@shpamn.org to schedule a time before or after school to try out the band instruments.

School Website

Please use our current website, www.sevenhillspreparatoryacademy.org to read about many aspects of our school life, including schedules, events, and updates. This is a

great place to find information or answer questions that arise. Our goal is to keep open, consistent and detailed communication with everyone and we update the website information regularly.

Before and After School Care

Cedar Valley Church will continue to provide child care for Seven Hills' families through the Cedar Valley Kids Before and After School Club. Please contact Valerie Boyce (valerieb@cvchurch.org) for questions or information regarding the program.

PTA News

The Seven Hills Preparatory Academy PTA is the Parent Teacher Association for students and teachers at both the Richfield and Bloomington campuses, grades kindergarten through 8th grade.

Upcoming Events:

Used Uniform Sale: The PTA will be supporting a used uniform sale on Saturday, August 24th from 8:00 - 11:00 AM at the Richfield campus.

Back-to-School Nights: Stop by the PTA table during Back-to-School nights to find out more about the PTA activities for 2019-20 and purchase Friday spirit wear t-shirts.

Back-to-School Picnic: The PTA will be hosting a Back-to-School picnic again this year on Friday, September 13th at the Bloomington Campus. All Seven Hills students, teachers and staff, along with their families are invited to attend this fun school-wide community event. Watch for more details to come.

Classical Education Parent Night

We want to invite our entire community to the Classical Education Parent Night we are hosting on October 16th at our Richfield Campus. This year's topic is the Liberal Arts: Embodying Beauty through a Culture of Inquiry. Our guest speaker is Dr. Amy Hamlin who is Associate Professor of Art History at St. Catherine University. See the [attached flier](#) for more information.

Have a great rest of the summer!

Sincerely,

Brent Peterson
Interim Principal