

# Portland High School

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U.S. Department of Education National School of Excellence

**Kimberly A. Holmes**  
*Assistant Principal*

**Sheila C. Jepson**  
*Principal*

**Jade D. Costello**  
*Assistant Principal*

Dear Students and Families:

August 15, 2019

Welcome to a new school year! We are looking forward to the year and meeting new students as well as seeing our returning students! This year we welcome our largest freshman class as well as many other new students who have transferred here over the summer. I know when you arrive PHS will be brimming with the energy that a new school year brings. I look forward to meeting families who are new to PHS and to seeing our returning families in the new year.

### **School starts on Tuesday, September 3, for all PHS students.**

The schedule for Tuesday:	Students in grade 9	8:00 – 2:30
	Students in grade 10 – 12	8:00 – 11:30

Having a modified schedule this first day will allow students to meet in their “BullDog Block”, get their schedule, meet as a full class, get their Chromebook, and have lunch. For our 9<sup>th</sup> grade students we will have orientation activities so that they can acclimate to the building.

The schedule for Wednesday, September 4: All students in grades 9 – 12 8:00 – 2:30

Students will have both their Blue Day and their White Day schedule on this day.  
The remainder of the week will be our regular schedule 8:00 – 2:30.


As you may know, the majority of high school students use the METRO for school transportation. For those of you who do not have a METRO pass, they will be in the Main Office on the first day back. Your METRO pass also serves as your student ID card; you will need it to get your Chromebook, for use in the cafeteria and library, and as identification at local businesses (especially at lunchtime). Your METRO/ID is also used at PHS home games where you will get in free with the ID. **This is an important card to have with you at all times!**

We invite all families for our **Open House on Wednesday, September 18, 2019 from 5:30 - 7:00pm**. We will have a “drop in” schedule that will give you an opportunity to briefly meet the teachers your student will have this year. We hope you join us!

Finally, there are many times when a mass email or “robo call” will go out to families with information. Please make sure we have your updated phone number and email address. We also publish a PHS Happenings newsletter at least seven times a year which goes out via email and is available on our website. PHS Happenings is full of information about what is happening in our school, showcases our students and activities, and gives you a glimpse into what our students are doing. You can always reach me at: [jepsos@portlandschools.org](mailto:jepsos@portlandschools.org)

Enjoy the remainder of the summer and August in Maine. The new school year will be here soon!

Warmly,

  
Sheila C. Jepson  
Principal

**See the enclosed information about picture day on Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>!**



PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

prepared & empowered