

Dear BGA Students and Families, August 14, 2019

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 make sure BGA is a school where you can believe, grow and achieve. We can't wait to see you on the first day of school, **Thursday, September 5th at 8am**!

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

- School Calendar- attached to this letter you will find the Boston Public Schools calendar (which BGA follows) and the BGA special events calendar. Please review both so your family can plan ahead.
- **Frequently Asked Questions-** Our FAQ document covers most of the major topics for middle and high school students to help you start the year, including supply lists and middle school uniform information. All students and families should also consult the BGA Student Handbook and the Guide to the Boston Public School, available on the BGA and BPS websites (see attachment).
- **Summer Reading-** all students should complete the Summer Reading project. Details can be found at <u>www.bostongreenacademy.org/library</u>
- **Transportation** Information on Yellow Buses, MBTA passes and how to travel to BGA is included in this letter and is also available on the BGA website.
- Attendance- Attendance at BGA was strong (over 90%) but we know we can do better this year. 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 is attached.
- **Sports-** We are proud to continue to co-op with Brighton High School for many of our sports this year. Fall tryouts have begun and times are posted on the BGA website. 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!
- New Opportunities- We are excited to offer new opportunities for BGA students this year that include: City Year expanding from our middle school to our 9th grade to provide support with attendance, academics and mentoring, our Big Brothers/Big Sisters program expanding to grades 9-12, and our brand new creative Maker Space (with a recording studio!) opening in October. Schoolwide, we will now have more clubs and activities, including new girls groups and more after school academic support. It's going to be a great year!

It is very important that we build upon last year's progress and keep our focus on learning. We will continue to ask you to follow all school rules 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 <u>www.bostongreenacademy.org</u>. Once again, Happy New Year and see you on Thursday, September 5th!

Best wishes,

Matt Holzer, Headmaster

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