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RUTLAND • SOUTHBRIDGE • SPENCER • WEBSTER  
**Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District**  
**BAY PATH REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL**  
57 OLD MUGGETT HILL ROAD  
CHARLTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01507-1331  
(508) 248-5971 - (508) 987-0326  
FAX (508) 248-4747

September, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians:

In keeping with the Bay Path tradition of offering the most comprehensive and challenging Vocational and Academic educational program to the students of the Bay Path community, the district is committed to maintaining the status as one of the schools in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be recognized as a Compass School.

A Compass School's students have exceeded state expectations for their MCAS testing program for three consecutive years. We are very proud to have these students enrolled and graduating from our institution.

With the support of your School Committee and the Bay Path Administration, the district is offering to **you and your child** (by contract only) a year-long **MCAS Mathematics Preparation and Enrichment Program** for the 2016-2017 school year. With our commitment to our students and their families and in keeping with this tradition of consistent improvement, we need YOUR support to assist us in this academic endeavor.

This program, taught by **highly qualified math teachers**, will run from 2:35 p.m. to 3:25 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, during your child's vocational week. This will allow each student to continue to take advantage of the extra help sessions offered by his/her academic teachers during his/her academic week.

As the *Department of Elementary and Secondary Education* is again raising the bar for the passing scores which determines a high school diploma, it is imperative that you enlist your child and support their consistent attendance to this critical program.

On the other side of this letter, you will find the district contract for enrollment. Please complete the required information and return it to the attention of the Guidance Department.

Sincerely,

Nancy Alpine  
Pupil Personnel Director

**TOGETHER WE WILL MAKE BAY PATH A SUCCESS!**

# MCAS Extended Day Program Contract

Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School  
57 Old Muggett Hill Road, Charlton, MA 01507

**2016-2017**

*Tuesday – Thursday during shop week  
2:35 p.m. – 3:25 p.m. The late bus is available.*

## PLEASE RETURN WITH YOUR CHILD'S 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF SCHOOL PAPERS

By participating in this extended day program I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to the following:

1. I will attend faithfully, unless absent from school for the day.
2. Homework may be assigned **DAILY**, and it is expected to be completed.

Parents and students must choose and sign one of the following options:

\*\*\*\*\*

\_\_\_\_\_ My child will attend the extended day program during his/her shop week

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name Printed Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (print) Parent/Guardian Signature  
\*\*\*\*\*

\_\_\_\_\_ My child will NOT attend the extended day program.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name Printed Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (print) Parent/Guardian Signature

## RETURN WITH YOUR CHILD'S 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF SCHOOL PAPERS

*Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School*  
*Stefanie Aiken*  
*School Guidance Counselor - Class of 2019*  
*508-248-5971 ext. 1765*  
*Saiken@baypath.net*

August 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians & Class of 2019,

Welcome to sophomore year! I hope you had a great summer, and enjoyed your time off. You survived freshman year and have adjusted to the demands of Bay Path. Now you are ready for the next chapter of your high school career, **Sophomore Year!**

This year your teachers will be preparing you for the MCAS. Yes, the test you have been preparing for your entire education is now upon us. Your teachers will be pushing you to do your best. **A word of advice, Listen, Learn, and most importantly DO YOUR HOMEWORK AND ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY!!!** I know you learned from freshman year how important homework completion is for academic success. It is even more important this year. Your homework will help you prepare for the MCAS. Don't forget all your teachers stay after **one night a week, shop and academic week**, to help you when you are struggling or need to complete missing work.

Please take advantage of our **MCAS Mathematics Preparation and Enrichment Program**. This program, taught by highly qualified math teachers, will run from 2:35 p.m. to 3:25 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, during your child's vocational week. This will allow each student to take advantage of the extra help sessions offered by his/her academic teachers during his/her academic week.

Sophomore year is a big year with great opportunities ahead. Now is the time to start thinking about your future. **What do you want to do after you graduate from high school?** Do you want to work, go to college, pursue post-secondary education, join the military? **There are so many possibilities waiting for you to take advantage of. It all begins with hard work and a goal.** Here at Bay Path we will help you reach your goal.

**Save the date!** October 19, 2017 the entire sophomore class will be taking the PSAT's here at Bay Path at no cost to you. This is a great opportunity you don't want to miss out on! The PSAT's is a practice test students take prior to taking the SAT's during the spring of their junior year and/or fall of their senior year. To learn more about the PSAT's go to: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).

The guidance department has a new college and career tool we are using called Naviance. During your sophomore year we will be setting up your accounts if we have not already, and explore through the different areas in preparation for senior year. Students will only be able to request transcripts through Naviance, so now is a great time to become familiar with it!

Sincerely,



Stefanie Aiken  
Guidance Counselor

## It is never too late to develop great study habits.

- 1. Write Down Every Assignment** - The most logical place to write down your assignments is in an agenda/planner, but you might prefer to keep a to-do list in a simple notebook or in your cell phone note pad. It doesn't really matter what tool you use, but it is absolutely essential to your success to **write down every single assignment, due date, test date, and task.**
- 2. Remember to Bring Your Homework to School** - It sounds simple enough, but many F's come from students forgetting to bring a perfectly good paper to school with them. Does your homework have a home? Is there a special place where you always put your paperwork each night? To avoid forgetting your homework, you must establish a strong homework routine with a special homework station where you work each night. Then you must get in the habit of putting your homework where it belongs right after you finish it, whether this is in a special folder on your desk or in your backpack. **Prepare every night before bed!**
- 3. Communicate with Your Teacher** - Every successful relationship is built upon clear communication. A student-teacher relationship is no different. Miscommunication is another one of those factors that can cause **bad grades**, despite good efforts on your part. At the end of the day, make sure you understand every assignment that's expected of you. The more questions you ask, the more prepared you'll be.
- 4. Organize with Color** - Devise your own color-coding system to keep your assignments and your thoughts organized. Select a single color for each class. You'll be surprised to discover how much strong organization skills can change your life! **Color-coding** is a great way to stay organized as classwork increases.
- 5. Establish a Study Zone at Home** - Take the time to assess your perfect study place. After all, if you can't concentrate, you certainly can't expect to learn very well. Students are different. Some need a completely quiet room free from interruptions when they study, but others actually study better listening to quiet music in the background or taking several breaks. Find a place to study that fits your specific personality and **learning style**. Then stock your study space with school supplies that will help you avoid last-minute emergencies.
- 6. Prepare Yourself for Test Days** - Study and review notes nightly! This builds knowledge and confidence so you are ready for test day when anxiety can increase.
- 7. Take Fabulous Notes** - There are a few tricks to taking fabulous notes that really help when it comes to studying. If you're visual person, you should make as many doodles on your paper as you can. Useful doodles, that is. **Use a highlighter** to identify important words or information that is a must to learn. There are also certain code words to look out for in a lecture that can indicate that your teacher is giving you the relevance or the context of an event. Learn to recognize key words and phrases that your teacher deems important.
- 8. Conquer Procrastination** - When you put things off a lot, you end up putting things off until it's too late from time to time. It's that simple. When you procrastinate, you're really taking the chance that nothing will go wrong at the last minute--but in the real world, *things do go wrong*. Imagine it's the night before a final exam and you have a flat tire, or an allergy attack, or a lost book, or a family emergency that keeps you from studying. At some point, **you will** pay a big price for putting things off. So how can you battle the urge to procrastinate? Start with trying to recognize that a feisty little voice that lives inside every one of us. It tells us it would be more fun to play a game, eat, or watch TV when we know better. Don't fall for it!
- 9. Take Care of Yourself** - Some of your personal habits might be affecting your grades. Are you feeling tired, achy, or bored when it comes to homework time? You can change your grades by practicing a few healthy homework habits -- Keep to a nightly schedule! Do your hard subject first! Get sleep! Stay on task!