

Proposed Changes

I. **Registration** - NEW

Add:

Students planning to attend Bedford High School must reside in Bedford or on Hanscom Air Force Base. If students reside on Hanscom Air Force Base, they must be a dependent of a parent or guardian who fit specific criteria to attend Bedford High School. (Please see State and Federal Regulations Section M at the end of this Handbook.)

New families to Bedford High School (or re-enrolling families) must show proof of residency/occupancy/Hanscom Air Force Base eligibility by providing documentation outlined on the Bedford Public Schools website. In addition to proof of residency/eligibility, enrollment requirements include birth certificate or passport, updated state-mandated immunizations and physical examination, and complete school records from prior school (including standardized test scores). For complete information, please go to <https://www.bedfordps.org/district/registering-new-student/pages/bedford-high-school-forms>.

More information may be found in Section XIII School & District Policies – Section C Denial of Admission and Section L Homeless Students Enrollment Rights.

II. **Leaving School** - NEW

Add:

Students planning to move, leave school early, or withdraw from Bedford High School for any reason should complete the official withdrawal form from the Registrar. All materials (textbooks, iPad, case, charging cord, uniforms, etc.) must be returned, all outstanding fees paid, and all course work/credit arrangements must be settled. Completion of these things allows student records to be readily discharged to schools and other parties, upon request.

III. **Homework Policy** - NEW

Add:

At Bedford High School, we aim to cultivate curiosity and resilience, build meaningful connections and promote balance so that students are empowered to live their best lives. Our mission is to inspire our students to strive for and meet the highest levels of academic and personal achievement, while nurturing a respectful, supportive, engaged, curious, and passionate learning community.

In order to promote well-being and achievement of all students, Bedford High School is committed to the following practices regarding

assignments and assessments:

Homework Practices

1. Homework is announced before the end of the class period, both orally and displayed - either on the board or online.
2. Homework is posted online on a platform that is accessible to students and parents/guardians.
3. Homework-free vacations are observed both in practice and in spirit, with no major test or assignment due until at least the third school day following a school vacation (Thanksgiving, December, February, and April breaks).
4. Any student who is unable to attend class or complete homework because of religious and/or cultural beliefs are provided with the time (no less than one week) and the opportunity to make up missed work and/or assessments.
5. No Homework Nights are observed for students taking the ELA MCAS in March, math MCAS in May, and science MCAS in June. Students taking MCAS retests are provided with the time (no less than one week) and opportunity to make up missed work and/or assessments.

Coordination of Major Assessments

For Major classes, summative assessments (tests, projects, essays) given/due during the final cycle prior to vacations, at the end of quarters, and before exams shall be coordinated as follows:

- English, science, and world language classes: due on day 1, 3, or 5
- Math, social studies, and any other major class: due on day 2, 4, or 6

IV. Grading System - page 10

Remove: "Parents are reminded by email when grades are posted."

V. Promotion and Graduation Requirements - page 10

- Change the heading from "Graduation Requirements" to "Promotion and Graduation Requirements"
- Add "In order to receive a Bedford High School diploma, a student must pass MCAS and complete all graduation requirements. A student who meets all graduation requirements but does not pass MCAS may receive a Certificate of Attainment"

VI. Honor Roll - page 11

Old	<p>F. Honor Roll</p> <p>A quarterly Honor Roll is based on numerical grades that are calculated in at least four major subjects resulting in the following grade point averages:</p> <p>First Honors: 90+ Second Honors: 88+ Third Honors: 85+</p> <p>These averages are calculated by multiplying each grade by the number of periods the course meets per cycle and dividing that total by the total number of periods. Pass/fail courses are not used. Honor roll is published in local newspapers and shared with students' school counselors only.</p>
New	<p>F. Honor Roll</p> <p>A quarterly Honor Roll is based on numerical grades that are calculated in at least four major subjects resulting in an average of 85 or better.</p> <p>These averages are calculated by multiplying each grade by the number of periods the course meets per cycle and dividing that total by the total number of periods. Pass/fail courses are not used.</p>

VII. Pass/Fail - page 11

Old	<p>H. Pass/Fail (P-F)</p> <p>Juniors and seniors may take one non-required course on a pass/fail basis. These grades will not be considered in computing a student's grade point average. Refer to the <i>Program of Studies</i> for more information.</p>
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New	<p>H. Pass/Fail (P-F)</p> <p>A grade of “P” is used in exceptional circumstances where standard grading practices do not apply. The decision to grade a student "pass/fail" in a course is a collaborative Program Administrator, Director of Counseling, and Assistant Principal decision, in consultation with the teacher and counselor. The grade of a “P” does not impact the GPA. Credit is recorded.</p>

VIII. Enrichment - page 13

Change “class rank” to “GPA”

IX. Community Service - page 14

Old	<p>All students are required to complete 20 hours of community service (5 per year) over their high school career. Community Service will appear on the report card/transcript with an indication of whether or not students have met the requirement. Students submit a community service plan which must be pre-approved using the form available from the Community Service Coordinators (Ms. Creamer and Ms. Faulstich).</p>
New	<p>All students are expected to complete 20 hours of community service over their high school career. Community Service appears on the transcript with an indication of whether students have met the expectation. Progress status and number of hours completed are tracked in Aspen and updated quarterly. Students are responsible for submitting hours via Google for verification as they are completed at www.bedfordps.org/high-school/parent-information/pages/community-service-bhs-students.</p>