

SOME GREAT TIPS FOR INCOMING 9TH GRADE PARENTS & STUDENTS FROM THE BLAIR HS PTSA



JOIN THE PTSA: We welcome you to Blair and invite you to join us as we advocate for our school. Get more information at: <http://ptsa.mbhs.edu/>. Please volunteer!

JOIN THE BLAIR LISTSERVES: Send email to: blairptsanetsubscribe@yahoo.com or join the announcements list: MBHSAnnouncements-subscribe@yahoo.com.

EDLINE: Watch for more information about this resource for parents and students.

PARENT HANDBOOK: The Parent Handbook is a central source of information about Blair High School. Watch for it in the mail this summer

BLAIR HS CONTACT INFORMATION: <http://www.mbhs.edu/about/contact.html>

BLAIR CAFEPRESS STORE (Great Stuff!): <https://www.cafepress.com/blairhsptsa>

LEARN ABOUT BLAIR'S ACADEMIES: There are five Academies at Montgomery Blair: Entrepreneurship, Human Service Professions, International Studies, Media Literacy, and Science, Mathematics, and Technology. Learn more about the academies online at: <http://academies.mbhs.edu/>. Note that the 9th grade, as a whole, is also considered to be an academy.

PROOF OF RESIDENCY: 9th grade students must provide proof of residency in Montgomery County.

BLAIR ID'S: Students must wear IDs! The ID policy will be in the Parent's Handbook and Planner. Photos will be taken at the start of school.

HELP YOUR CHILD GET ORGANIZED: Put manila folders in a box and as soon as you know your student's subjects, put the name of each subject on a folder. As binders get too full, have your student take out and file the materials they don't need in the manila folders.

COMMUNICATION: Go to Back-to-School Night and get your child's teacher's emails. Sign up for the Blair Yahoo Discussion Group, and Edline. Read *Silver Chips*, *Silver Chips Online* and the *Blazer PTSA Newsletter*. Come to PTSA meetings, principal coffees, sports, plays, etc. Keep that Parent Handbook handy! Check backpacks for flyers and other information. Don't be afraid to look! Lost plan books are \$5.00 to replace.

Learn the name of your child's counselor. Don't be afraid to ask questions! The MCPS website – <http://mcps.k12.us.edu> is also a great source of information, including lunch menus and information in many languages. Translators are available during meetings as possible with FM wireless equipment. Blair also communicates using an automated phone messaging system ("EdConnect" – or "Robodial") and the digital sign at Colesville and University Blvd. The best way to communicate is to ask your child what is going on.

SPORTS , BEBOPS, CHORUS – There are support groups for sports, music, chorus and theater programs at Blair. Sports: blairboosters@yahoo.com. BEBOPS: dustin_M_Doyle@mcpsmd.org. Chorus: debandbob2@verizon.net Theater: gangsal@gmail.com NOTE: Your child does NOT have to take PE as a freshman if he/she would rather take band, orchestra or chorus.

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