

# Welcome to the 2011-2012 School Year!

## The Basics

### School Schedule and Year- Long Calendar

On our website you may print the weekly schedule and our at-a-glance year-long calendar. Please post them in your house for easy reference. Remember, we really want your students here when we are in session. Grades or credit may be affected if you take additional vacation days. The calendar is updated as needed and available on our web site: [New Vista active website Calendar](#).

### Pre-arranged Extended Absences

Pre-arranged extended absences of 3 school days or more **MUST** be excused in advance by the Principal or Assistant Principal and your student's teachers. (Missing 3 days at NVHS is like missing one week+ and missing 5 days at NVHS equals losing 2 weeks of school at a semester long high school.)

### Messages for Students

Unfortunately, we cannot deliver phone messages to students except in an emergency. We have a big building and a small office staff. Our definition of an emergency is a sudden illness or death in the family.

### Student Access to Phones

We now have phones throughout the building and each phone has an outside line. Students will be able to make local calls on these phones for emergencies or school business. They should not be used for social conversations.

### Advisory Groups

New Students: Please see the "New Student list with Advisor 2011-2012" to find out who your advisor is and when to arrive at school on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

All Students: Please refer to "August 16<sup>th</sup> Schedule" find out what time you are to be at New Vista.

## Important Dates and Activities

### Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> - Important School Business for All Students

All students are asked to come in for approximately 1 ½ hours on Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> to attend their first Advisory meeting, turn in forms, pick up schedules and have pictures taken. The "Schedule for August 16<sup>th</sup>" will tell students when to come by the advisory they are in. Each advisory meets at a different time, so please read the schedule carefully. New students and returning students in each advisory will meet at different times.

### Pictures

Students wishing to order picture packets must bring their order forms (Lifetouch Picture Flyer) and credit card information or checks made out to "LifeTouch" at that time. All students must have a picture taken, whether they wish to order packets or not. This photo is used for New Vista ID, school records and the yearbook (except for seniors). There is no cost as long as a packet is not ordered.

**PLEASE DO NOT BRING A NON-NEW VISTA FRIEND TO AUGUST 16th ACTIVITIES.**

### Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> - School Begins

8:45 AM Advisory & Community Gathering

12:10 PM Advisory and lunch in Advisory rooms

*NOTE: As part of the opening day celebration we will be providing lunch for everyone, so make plans to eat with us on campus.*

1:10- 2:30 pm Community Experience Volunteer Fair & Advisory (Seniors will have their first "Senior Meeting with Ivette & Diane)

### Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> day of classes- Regular School Day

7:40 am 1<sup>st</sup> period begins for First Quarter and Trimester One

8:45 am AM Block

10:55 AM Advisory

12:05 PM Lunch –Pizza available for \$1/slice today, with music and snacks.

1:05 pm PM classes

### Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup> – Regular Friday schedule

**Tuesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> – All-Parent Meeting (7:00 p.m.) and Meet the Teachers (7:30 p.m.)**

Afterwards you can meet advisors and teachers (by department) as well as connect with other parents. Please support our one and only all-school community bake sale extravaganza beginning at 6:00 p.m. In addition to time to meet staff, there will be time to connect to other parents and to sign up to help with our CU Football parking Through football parking New Vista earns money to support many of our various programs, advisories, and provide scholarships where necessary.

*(New Parents meet for a meeting at 6:15 pm in the Community Room, then move to the Auditorium)*

**The New Vista Student Handbook**, which provides essential information on school policies and graduation requirements, can be viewed from the [NVHS website](#). “**Students Rights and Responsibilities Guide**” very important information for parents and students is available at the [BVSD website](#).

**Student/Advisor Conferences**

Over the first three weeks of First Quarter, we set aside time for advisors to meet individually with each of their students. During these conference times only those students with appointments will be required to attend school and only during the assigned meeting time. These conferences will provide opportunities for advisors to get to know new students and continue to work closely with returning students. The time will also be used to plan Community Experience placements, to set goals for the year connected to graduation requirements, and to hold graduation committee meetings, as needed. Refer to the school calendar to identify these conference times.

**Comida Latina – Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**

At this special fiesta, which begins at 6:00 p.m., we provide an opportunity for Latino families to come together, meet each other, and find out about the way New Vista supports their students. Spanish is the language spoken at this event, with translation for English speakers. The entire family is welcome. Personal invitations will be sent out in early September.

**Forms**

**Census Correction Information**

Please log on to the parent portal to Infinite Campus: [www.bvsvd.org](http://www.bvsvd.org) **UPDATE this information using the Contact Manager for Parents** or let us know if there are any corrections to the current information we have about how to reach you, other members of your student’s family, and emergency contacts. It is essential that this information be accurate. We do not need or want your student’s SSN (social security number).

*(If you have moved over the summer, you will need to provide proof of address, such as an Xcel Energy or landline phone service bill.)*

**Proof of Immunization**

Students will not be allowed to continue in school unless they have complied with the State of Colorado Mandatory Immunization Regulations. It is the responsibility of the parents to provide an updated record of immunization to the school. If you do not wish your child to have this vaccine for personal or religious reasons, please sign a waiver that is available in the Health Room. A medical exemption must be signed by a physician. **Return updated immunizations form from the doctor to the front office.**

**Family Economic Data Survey**

While New Vista does not offer a subsidized lunch program at this time, **(please see statement in red below)** it is very important to the school and the District to know how many of our students qualify for such a program. The number of eligible students affects the amount of money BVSD receives from the State of Colorado and thus the amount of money available for New Vista. It also affects the amount of money we receive from Impact on Education to provide scholarships for students in need of financial assistance, and the way test scores are interpreted. We also use these forms to determine who receives scholarships for discounted bus passes and course fees. This really does matter!

Please return the form to us if your family meets the Federal criteria. (as appropriate)

**Please note: we are currently updating the Kitchen and remodeling the Community Room (lunch room for the students), and adding a much needed elevator, all in the same area. Our scheduled completion date of those three projects is November 1st. When our remodel is complete we will begin a school lunch program. We will keep you posted on our progress. Thank you for your patience and support as New Vista grows.**

### New Vista Forms You Need to Fill Out and/or Sign

1. The **Medical/Emergency Information Form**, (Required),
  2. The **Field Trip Permission Form**, (Required), allows students to participate in daytime field trips throughout the year. You will only need to fill out other forms if your student is involved in an overnight trip.
  3. **The Parent/Student Sign-Off Sheet**, (Required, 2 pages) which lists some additional policies and practices with which you will need to be familiar. The form includes Permission to Video Tape and Photograph your student. Students who choose to participate in interscholastic sports will be expected to acknowledge their intent to abide by the BVSD Interscholastic Athletic Code. This will be made available by coaches of individual sports.
  4. **Appropriate Use of Technology Form**, (Required). An Acknowledgement Regarding the use of any technology used in the school.
  5. **E-Mail Alert Form for parents**. (Required) The most cost effective and timely way to send you other messages throughout the year are e-mail messages from Donna Davis who runs our Front Desk. All of our weekly/daily communication is done through e-mail alerts to parents. (if requested, only 3 newsletters per school year will be mailed by US Post office, additional weekly/daily communications **will not** be mailed to you, except report cards). However, we strongly encourage all families with *e-mail* access to use this system. Please fill out the form with your *e-mail* address.
  6. **Opt-Out of the Military Form** (optional) which allows families to choose whether or not they wish their students' names and phone numbers to be disclosed to the military. This form needs to be turned in once during your students' high school years in BVSD, so turn this form in if you are 9<sup>th</sup> grader. Please view a copy of the Student Rights and Responsibilities Guide.
  7. **Parent Volunteer Resources** (optional -2 pages) offering a wide range of ways to help out at New Vista. If you have an idea that's not on the form, add it! Remember, it takes a whole village to run a school! We are particularly interested in adults who can be mentors to students in their workplace or by serving on graduation committees. This is an opportunity to use your expertise to help a teenager (not your own) who will really appreciate your efforts.
  8. **Student Directory Permission** to list your family in the NVHS student directory (optional)
  9. **Census Correction Information** that updates how to reach you and who to contact in an emergency. (as appropriate)
  10. **Parking Permit Application Form** (as appropriate)
- **Family Economic Data Survey** (as appropriate)
  - **Lifetouch Picture Flyer** (optional)
  - **Checklist of Contributions** (optional)

### Medications and Medical Release Form

Anytime a student needs to take or be given medication while in school, a medical release agreement **must** be on file with the office. This form needs to be signed by your student's doctor/dentist and is available here at school and from your doctor. Students are **not** permitted (by Colorado law) to carry with them **any** medications, including over-the-counter medications such as ibuprofen, aspirin, allergy relief, etc. We are glad to keep these items on hand in the health room along with a signed release. All medications, prescription or over the counter, **must** be in their original container with the student's name and dosage clearly marked. (A parent may come and administer to your student a dose of medication at school, in the health room. This includes Tylenol or Advil for headaches or cramps.)

**Please Note:** A signed release form needs to be renewed each school year. These forms **do not carry over** from school to school or year to year.

### **Money Matters**

The **Checklist of Contributions** sheet lists areas where money is needed throughout the school year. Please send a check with your student and this sheet to registration on **August 16<sup>th</sup>**. *Check the items you wish to pay for, and attach your cash/check send with your student on August 16<sup>th</sup>.* A receipt will be returned with your student.

We really need families to buy yearbooks now so that we know how many books to order. We can set up a monthly payment plan if that makes advance payment easier for you.

You will also see options for a variety of donations to help projects at the school as well as to support our picnics and Staff Appreciation Day. These are described below.

### **Classroom Supplies Donation**

Please refer to the school supply sheet to find out about items needed by the school, in general.

These contributions will help replace the supplies used by students throughout the school year. You can bring these items on **August 16<sup>th</sup>** or any time afterward. If you prefer to donate cash, rather than go shopping, we will be happy to accept your contribution.

### **Pizza Money (otherwise known as a donation to help fund lunchtime student activities)**

One of the ways that we encourage a wide range of students to be involved in the school or to use important support services is to offer them a free lunch in exchange for their participation. Without this incentive, participation tends to be very limited. In order to involve more students, we offer pizza. But, as you know, there is no such thing as a free lunch. So if you would like to help us reach out to a wide range of students to get them involved in co-curricular activities, consider making a \$10 donation to our pizza fund.

### **Friday Cookie Money**

Many years ago, a parent volunteer who worked on Friday mornings started bringing cookies for the students. When her students graduated, another parent volunteer continued the tradition. But since it's not fair to expect volunteers to give both time and money the school now collects donations, shops for the cookies, and teaches students to share them. Our students love their Friday cookies and despite the sugar, they help create a warm and friendly environment. Please donate between \$1 - \$5 to keep this tradition alive.

### **Scholarships for Teen Bus Passes**

With gas prices rising and incomes dropping, more and more students are interested in bus passes and more and more of our students need financial aid to buy them. This last year it cost us \$600 each month to subsidize student transportation. We use the Opportunity Fund from Impact on Education and some of our Football parking revenues for this purpose. But we would love some additional contributions so that we can use our Football dollars for other educational needs.

### **Payback Coupon Book**

A great fundraiser for us and discount coupons for you and your family, they also make great gifts for friends and family. We make \$10 from every \$20 book sold. All coupons are for the Boulder County area.

### **Grocery Coupons**

We have discovered that a very effective way to raise money for special programming is through the sale of grocery coupons. We ask each family to participate in this program, which costs you nothing, and donates up to 5% of your grocery dollars to New Vista. Check out the program on a detailed flyer explaining how the program works.

### **Other Financial Contributions**

Any other money donated to the school will be used to support school programming, including: books, classroom supplies, equipment, computers, landscaping, and scholarships. If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution of any amount, please do so at any time. Let us know whether you would like your gift to go for a specific activity or into the general fund.

### **Other Expenses you might encounter throughout the year depending on a student's schedule or choices**

- Students participating in a sport at one of the other high schools can expect to pay a fee for doing so, in addition to uniform costs.
- Students taking art classes at New Vista can expect fees ranging from \$5 to \$35 per class. These fees cover the cost of art materials which will be incorporated in projects students take home.
- Students taking Photography can expect a fee of \$35 per class. We also have a limited supply of cameras for those students who need to rent a camera from the school. The rental fee is \$25.00 per quarter.
- Students taking math classes will be expected to own a simple calculator which must be brought to every class. Graphing calculators will be provided, as appropriate, in class.
- Students taking a Spanish class are expected to have a personal copy of a Spanish/English dictionary.
- Graduating seniors can expect to pay approximately \$25 for their caps and gowns and at least \$30 for announcements. Deposits are due **January 20, 2012**. *(All graduating seniors must buy a cap and gown, late orders will triple in price.)*
- School dances cost no more than \$25 per person.
- Student parking permits will cost \$35 per semester. (Parking within 2 blocks of the school, for more than 2 hours results in a ticket from the City of Boulder, the current parking ticket charge is \$40 and you can get more than one ticket in a day.)
- There may be other class-related fees associated with a variety of field trips.

Students who cannot afford fees associated with class activities may access scholarship funds by speaking with the school treasurer, Ann Thomaier.

## Teaching and Learning

### Studying World Languages Other Than Spanish and American Sign Language

Students who wish to pursue languages other than Spanish and American Sign Language have the opportunity to study with private tutors and earn credit from New Vista through a Learning Unit Contract (LUC). In the past, we have helped students and families find other students interested in the same language at the same level to form group tutorials, for example French III or Japanese II. If you would like us to help you network, please contact Vanessa Dimiziani, our LUC Coordinator. She will both put families in contact with each other and explain the LUC process. She can be reached at 720-561-8720.

### Graduation Deadlines

As seniors approach graduation, a series of non-negotiable, drop-dead deadlines define the expectations they must meet. The deadlines for students graduating in **May 26, 2012** are identified on the Graduation Deadlines sheet and on the calendar. Deadlines for those graduating on **December 16, 2011** are listed in last year's Graduation Deadlines sheet and are available upon request.

Failure to meet these deadlines means that students will not walk across the stage at the graduation ceremony. Students who have completed all necessary work will still receive diplomas on graduation day. The rationale for this consequence is carefully explained in the Student Handbook.

### Concurrent Enrollment

#### Registration for Classes at CU

Eleventh and twelfth graders who filled out the necessary forms in June and are still planning to sign up for classes at CU need to do so on **Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>**. One way to take care of this is by using the CU-CONNECT phone system. (Instructions were sent to you in the Invitation to Register which you received from C.U.) Phone registration begins at 7:00 a.m. You can also register in person, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the Office of Continuing Education, which is located at 1505 University Avenue. Registration for Boulder Evening Continuing Education classes began on **Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup>** at the Office of Continuing Education. If you need additional information, check your ACCESS packet or call 303-492-5148. Classes begin on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### Registration for Classes at Front Range

Classes begin on **August 15<sup>th</sup>** and students should register before that date. FRCC has several campuses New Vista students might attend. The FRCC catalogue will tell you on which campus each class is located and you should call that campus to get details on registration processes. Students who have not taken FRCC classes in the past must go to one of the FRCC campuses to have an Academic Skills Assessment administered before they can register for classes. If you have any questions, contact Front Range at 303-678-3764.

### SAT Preparation Class Opportunity

As part of our partnership with the Community Schools Program, we are able to offer a free SAT Prep class to New Vista students taught by the highly acclaimed teacher who offers this class (for a fee) through the Community School Program. The class will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning mid September. Students need to call Community Schools to get the New Vista scholarship and exact dates. The number is 720-561-3768.

## Supplies, Lockers, Bus Passes and Parking Permits

### Student School Supplies

Please refer to the School Supplies sheet for a list of what a student might need. Classes may have other, specific requirements.

### Lockers

New students will choose their lockers during registration on **August 16<sup>th</sup>**. The school's lockers have built-in combination locks, so padlocks are not needed. Returning students will have the same locker and combination as last year.

### Bus Passes

The RTD Teen Bus Pass currently sells for \$39.50 per month. A student must have a current school ID to go with the Teen Pass. (RTD reserves the right to change this price at any time during the school year.) A book of 10 teen ride coupons may be purchased at King Soopers, Safeway or the RTD bus terminal for \$10.00 (these teen ride coupons also require a current school ID)

### Parking Permits

The school parking lot is only available to students who have purchased a parking permit. Cars without permits will be towed. Applications for Fall Parking Permits will be due to the office on **Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>**. Permits will be sold beginning Thursday

morning. Permits cost \$35 per semester (August – December and January – May). (1<sup>st</sup> semester permits may be pre-paid on the contributions sheet, be sure to fill out the **Parking Permit Application**.)

## Other Business

### Vending machines

All the schools in the district only put food in the vending machines that meets the Boulder Valley School District guidelines for healthy snacks. The beverage machine will have water, a sports drink, carbonated juices, and regular juices. The snack machine will have pretzels, animal crackers, baked chips, trail mixes, granola and energy bars and any other items that meet the fat and sugar maximums set by the school district task force. We also have a frozen food machine which will provide items such as burritos, pockets, and other small meals. Micro-waves are available in the Community Room to heat them up.

Students may bring whatever food they choose from outside for their own personal consumption, but they may not sell food to their peers.

### Student Accident Insurance Forms

Contact BVSD Health Services to receive an insurance application. 720-561-5544.

## “What to bring on Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>”

### Check List of forms to fill out and bring to school on August 16<sup>th</sup> or when you come back to school

Please print and fill out these forms:

1. **Emergency Form**– REQUIRED,
2. **Field Trip Permission Form**– REQUIRED,
3. **The Parent/Student Sign-Off Sheet** (2-pages) **All pages need to be initialed and signed** – REQUIRED,
4. **Appropriate Use of Technology Form**-- REQUIRED,
5. **E-Mail Alert Form for parents**- REQUIRED,
  
6. **Military Opt-Out Form**- optional, *This form needs to be turned in once during your students' high school years in BVSD, so turn this form in if you are 9<sup>th</sup> grader,*
7. **Parent Volunteer form**– optional,
8. **Student Directory Permission form** that allows us to list the student's name, address and phone number in our Student Directory, which is available to the public– optional,
9. **Census Correction Information** that updates how to reach you. (as appropriate)
10. **Parking Permit application** –as appropriate
  - **Family Economic Data Survey** -as appropriate,
  - **Picture order flyer** and credit card information or check made out to Life Touch – as appropriate,
  - September RTD teen pass money in the amount of **\$39.50** (optional). Checks should be made out to **BVSD**, *September bus passes will be available for pick up or purchase in the main office on August 31.*
  - **Grocery Coupon Request Form** and or **Payback Coupon Book Form** attached with a check with your student's name in the memo portion of the check – optional.
  - **CHECK LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS** which can be paid on registration day. IT WILL HELP US IF YOU ATTACH CASH OR CHECK(S) TO THAT SHEET.

**New Vista Fundraiser Items for Sale** – available on **August 16<sup>th</sup>** in the gym.

- NVHS assignment/planning books - **\$6 each**
- NVHS hoodie sweatshirts, gray or black, indicate size needed - **\$35 each**
- NVHS baseball caps - **\$15 each**
- NVHS lanyards - **\$5 each**
- Payback Coupon Book - **\$20**