

August 1, 2021

Dear Families of Senior Students,

We hope you have been enjoying your summer! While there is still another month until we begin school, you might be starting to think about buying school supplies and taking advantage of store sales in the coming weeks. The 2nd and 3rd pages of this letter contain a list of supplies that you'll need to have as we begin school in just a few short weeks. The time will fly by, so you may want to begin gathering the items.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the Annex and the Senior Class for the coming school year. We are also thrilled to welcome a new teacher to our team this year, Taylor Blackburn. Some of you may know Taylor from the substitute teaching she did at NBS a couple of years ago, or you might remember her son Eamon who was in our NBS Preschool. Taylor loves reading, writing, drama, and yoga, and she is excited to share those interests, as well as her curiosity about the world of science, with the Senior Class.

You'll begin science this year with Maggie and Taylor with one of our favorite units, studying astronomy - learning about stars, constellations, the planets of our solar system, and much more! Michael will bring the culture and history of ancient Rome to life with you. You'll enjoy creative writing with Taylor, math projects with Maggie, and playing the ukulele with Michael. We're busy planning and getting fun projects ready for you!

We hope you are enjoying the summer reading assignment. Please send your postcard or letter about the first book you read during June/July to Michael's attention at the school (221 Mickens Rd., Afton, VA 22920). He is looking forward to discussing that book with you, as well as Peak by Roland Smith, when we start the new year. Michael is glad to have heard from many of you, and he is looking forward to hearing from everyone this month. If you haven't already read Peak, now is the perfect time to start.

We will share more information as the start of school gets nearer. Meanwhile, enjoy the rest of your summer! We hope you're spending lots of time playing outside, seeing family and friends, and having lots of adventures. We also hope you're finding time to get lost in a book several times a week!

We'd love to have you join us for the Parent Workday on Saturday, August 21, to help get the school ready for a new year! We will be eager to see your children when school begins on September 2.

The Senior Team

Maggie, Michael, and Taylor

**Please read the next two pages of our detailed supply list carefully, and contact one of us if you have any questions.**

Michael's email: [michaeld@nbsva.org](mailto:michaeld@nbsva.org)

Maggie's email: [maggieb@nbsva.org](mailto:maggieb@nbsva.org)

Taylor's email: [taylorb@nbsva.org](mailto:taylorb@nbsva.org)

# Seniors' Supply List - 2021 - 2022

Please obtain the following items before the start of school. We hope you will be able to take advantage of summer sales, and we encourage you to reuse items you may already have at home.

- A **water bottle**, with your child's name written on it in permanent marker.
- Please expect to **provide a facemask** each day that your child is comfortable wearing.
- A **pencil case** (box or pouch), large enough to hold the following items:
  - pencils** -- pack of 10 or 12
  - an eraser** - the pink or white rectangular erasers work well
  - hand-held pencil sharpener** - the simple small plastic ones with a cover to catch the shavings
  - whiteboard markers** - a 4-pack is enough
  - scissors** - The small Fiskar style works well, but you can choose; nothing fancy or large is needed.
  - earphones/buds** - Your child should have their own pair for use throughout the year.
  - highlighters (optional)** - 1 each of yellow, pink, and green
  - black sharpies (optional)** - 1 fine, 1 ultra-fine
- For art and other classroom projects:
  - One **hardcover sketchbook** to use at home and in class. It should be 8.5 x 11 or larger. It does not have to be new. If you already have a sketchbook that you are using, that is great: please keep using it!
  - Please get a **pack of markers**, a **small pack of crayons**, and a **pack of colored pencils**. A box of 8 colored pencils and one of 8 regular markers will be sufficient, but if your child loves these kinds of art supplies, feel free to get a bigger pack. **Your child's art supplies will be kept in a decorative box that we will provide.**

**We'll supply:** *all curriculum materials, a small whiteboard, an art supply box, a ruler, a protractor, and a calculator, as well as supplies for special projects*

**For the Classroom:** Please choose 2 items from the following list to donate to the classroom: *box of tissues, dispenser or refill bottle of hand soap or dish soap, dry-erase classroom markers, wide-ruled lined notebook paper*

We recommend that **you have on hand at home:**

*An eraser, colored pencils, markers, a pencil sharpener, # 2 or softer pencil*

### Subject Folders and Notebooks Needed:

- a **YELLOW** pocket folder\* and **YELLOW** spiral notebook (wide-ruled paper) for **Humanities**
- a **BLUE** pocket folder and **BLUE** spiral notebook (wide-ruled paper) for **Writer's Workshop**
- a **GREEN** pocket folder and **GREEN** spiral notebook for **Science**
- a **RED** pocket folder for **Math**
- a **PURPLE** pocket folder and a composition book or spiral notebook in any color for **Reader's Workshop**
- a **black** or music-themed folder for **music**
- You may have had a **WHITE** 1 -inch 3-ring binder for **Spanish** in a previous year. If so, please bring this with you.

Please feel free to reuse folders and notebooks that are in good shape. They do not need to be new.

\*If you like the fun of folders with patterns and pictures more than solid colors, then you can do this: choose a patterned folder that has the main color that we've requested—so that it's clear to you and to us which is the "yellow" or "red" or "blue" folder. This allows students and teachers to quickly identify the folder/notebook for each subject.

**Even though many students really want to use one large binder in which to store all of their papers, they are not a good system for our students, so please do not invest in a bulky binder.** Over the years, we have found a method that uses separate color-coded folders and spiral notebooks to be more workable than one large binder. When students come to class, they will have only the color-coded supplies that are needed for that class. Students will put the papers from *that* class in *that* folder or notebook and not anywhere else. They will take notes or write in a spiral notebook meant specifically for that class and keep those pages in that notebook, and any loose papers will go in the color-coded folder for that class. Students will take home only the folders and notebooks they need each night. Each folder and notebook can be turned into the teacher who needs to see them. When not being used, folders and notebooks are kept in each student's cubby.