

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School



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Dear Parent/Guardian:

Congratulations to your son or daughter on making a teams.

In May 2009, the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) voted to rescind its mouthguard mandate in soccer and basketball. Now mouthguards will only be "highly recommended" in soccer and basketball instead of "required."

Given the physical nature of soccer and basketball, the Athletic Department at Blackstone Valley Tech will continue to offer mouthguards to student-athletes if they so choose to wear a mouthguard during the soccer and basketball seasons.

As an aside, if you so choose to have your son/daughter wear a mouthguard, I would like to make you aware of the Massachusetts Dental Society's Grin and Wear It Program. The Grin and Wear It Program is a mouthguard program in which more than 175 Massachusetts Dental Society dentists throughout the state have volunteered to provide custom-made moughguards for a discount or nominal fee. Custom-made mouthguards are by far the best mouthguard in terms of their fit, comfort, and protection. To access a list of dentists participating in the **Grin and Wear It** program, log onto www.massdental.org and click on Public Awareness/For Parents/Educators. Or you may call the Massachusetts Dental Society at (800) 342-8747 x 253.

Mouthguards are still mandatory for the following sports:

- Football – All Levels
- Field Hockey – All Levels
- Ice Hockey – All Levels
- Boys Lacrosse – All Levels
- Girls Lacrosse – All Levels

Thank you,

Michele Denise
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“ Home of the Beavers ”