

High School Happenings October 29, 2019

MHS Administration

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News and Information

End of the First Marking Period: The first marking period will come to a close as of Tuesday, November 5. Report cards are scheduled to become available in the PowerSchool portal on November 14.

Course Prerequisites Requirements and Waiver Policy: Course selection for the 2020-2021 school year will take place in February. Many advanced courses have prerequisite academic performance requirements that must be met in order for students to schedule the courses. Please be aware of these prerequisites as the first marking period of the current school year comes to a close. The issuance of grades for the first marking period provides an opportunity for students and parents to begin to discuss possible course progression for next year. In the event that prerequisite requirements are not met, students and parents may consider a “waiver.” The “Waiver Policy” provides a limited opportunity for students who approach, but do not meet, these requirements, to still select certain advanced courses. Please visit the following link to the current program planning guide for additional information regarding the Waiver Policy to help guide you in this process. <https://www.methacton.org/cms/lib/PA01000176/Centricity/Domain/112/2019-2020%20Program%20Planning%20Guide.pdf> The Program Planning Guide (PPG) for the 2020-2021 school year will be posted on the MHS website in late December.

PowerSchool Parent Portal Updates: It is important to have updated and correct contact information for all students. Please take the time to verify and update this information in the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Please log into powerschool.methacton.org/public to review and update the **Contact Information Section** for your child. **This review and verification of this data is required each school year.**

School Closed 11/5: All Methacton School District schools are closed for a teacher in-service day on Tuesday, November 5.

Parents/ Guardians of Seniors: 1) Diploma Information sheets were distributed to students today and should be returned to main office indicating how student name should appear on the diploma and signed by parent. 2) Graduation envelope from Student Services Company was also distributed to seniors detailing information on purchasing the mandatory cap & gown package required for the graduation ceremony. Information on both items may be found on the high school web page <https://www.methacton.org/Domain/54> and due date for both is **November 15.**

Informational Reminders

Halloween Reminder: With Halloween fast approaching, students and parents are reminded that all Halloween costumes worn to school on October 31st must be school appropriate. Please be aware when choosing your child's costume that weapons and violent themes as well as alcohol and drug themes are not permitted. Just as replicas of weapons are not allowed on school property during the regular school day, this also applies to the use of "toy" weapons. The use of masks and fake-blood face paint is also prohibited. These guidelines are intended to add to the enjoyment and safety of the occasion. **Any costume that is determined to cause a disruption to the school day will not be permitted and the student will be asked to remove the costume.**

Handbook Corner

Family Trips If your family is planning a trip during the school year (half day and one day trips, also), it will be necessary for you to complete and submit an Educational Trip, or College trip form at least 2 weeks prior to the absence. The necessary form may be picked up in the high school main office. Please request student work in advance of the planned trip. Students are responsible for any work missed. Absences shall be treated as unlawful until the district receives a written excuse explaining the absence, to be submitted within three (3) days of the absence. A maximum of ten (10) days of cumulative lawful absences verified by parental notification shall be permitted during a school year. All absences beyond ten (10) cumulative days shall require an excuse from a licensed physician.