**December 14, 2017 (Meeting cancelled due to 2 hour snow delay)**

Announcements:

We have arranged to meet for breakfast and a tour at the North Montco Technical Career Center, 1265 Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA on January 11, 2018. We will meet in the restaurant for breakfast at 9:00 a.m. and, afterward have a tour of the facility. Price for breakfast should be less than $15. Remember to bring your driver's license as you may need it to enter the premises. Because we are meeting in the restaurant, they would like to know how many there will be so please RSVP to Marie Kramer, marie.kramer@comcast.net by January 9 to let us know you will be attending. We’ll be inviting parents of 8th graders, too.

**Principal’s Report**

**High School Home & School Meeting: 12/14/17**

* **Keystone Exams:** The recent budget adoption included a provision that extended the requirement for successful passing of the Keystone to members of the Class of 2020. The recently completed administration of the exams last week was for students whom had either not taken the exams before e.g. students transferring in from non-public schools, or for students who had not successfully passed one or more of the exams in the past. The next, larger, administration of the exams is scheduled by PDE for May. More information will be sent out as the date approaches.
* **Scheduling for the 2018-2019 School Year:** Planning for the process of student course scheduling for 2018-2019 school year has begun. There will be two changes of significance for this year. The first involves the actual process of scheduling courses. Course selection will now be able to be completed at home via PowerSchool. A week in February will be allotted for this process. Parents will be encouraged to work with their child to go into PowerSchool and make course requests. Efforts are underway to allow for a tiered level of request so that students will be able to identify first choices in electives followed by secondary choices. The process of teacher recommendations for courses will take place during the week immediately preceding parent/student scheduling. The second change for this year will involve the waiver process whereby students who do not meet prerequisite requirements for a course may, with parent permission, opt to choose the next highest course. Students will need to be within five percentage points of the requirements. Initial information about this was sent to parents via High School Happenings last week. Additional information will be conveyed as the time for scheduling approaches. Counselors will meet with individual students throughout the remainder of February and March after course selections have been made.
* **North Montco Technical Career Center (NMTCC) 50th Anniversary:** This month, NMTCC marked its fiftieth anniversary as an educational institution. NMTCC offers a wide variety of programs across a breadth of subject areas. Completion of NMTCC often allows students to earn certification, which make them immediately employable as skilled labor in the workforce upon graduation from high school. Conversations surrounding the concept of being “career ready” will be expanding over the next few years with the inclusion of our Career Counselor, Mrs. Judy Schmitz, in keeping with the PDE mandates under the Act 339 program for career readiness.
* **Winter Sports:** Official games, matches and meets for our winter sports teams began last week. We expect to be competitive in all of our winter sports. Please visit the MHS athletic webpage for all sports schedules.
* **Mid-Term Exams:** Mid-term exams will begin shortly after the return from the winter break. The exam schedule is already posted on the MHS website and will go out to all parents via the High School Happenings email next Tuesday.
* Best wishes to everyone for a happy, healthy and safe holiday season. I look forward to seeing everyone in January. Happy New Year!

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Sorgini, Principal of Methacton High School

**Teacher’s Report**

**High School Home & School Meeting: 12/14/17**

**From the Music Dept.:** Please join the Methacton HS Band, Choir, and Orchestra for their culminating Winter Performance, on Wednesday, December 20, in the Arcola Auditorium, beginning at 7:30 pm. Plenty of seats for family, friends and alumni.

The MHS Tri-M Music Honor Society is sponsoring an instrument drive to partner orphaned or unused instruments with young musicians in Methacton School District. For info on how you can participate or support this project, please email Joyce Magann, Advisor at JMagann@methacton.org

Senior cellist, Mark Egan and Freshman violinist Matthew Fu were recently selected by competitive audition to participate in the PMEA District 11 Orchestra. Mark & Matt will travel to Pennridge to form the elite ensemble with 120 musicians from Bucks and Montgomery County. After 3 days of intensive symphonic orchestra rehearsal, they will present a performance in February 2018.

**From Mrs. Erin Ranieri:** The Girls Who Code club took 10 students to Skyview to promote coding to 5th and 6th grade girls. This is a national club, however we do our own version of it here at Methacton. We leave here at 2:20 and get bussed to Skyview to make it in time for their 8th period. Last week 9 of our girls met with over 30 of their girls and worked on a website called Scratch to make animated name tags. They really enjoyed it and look forward to planning a lesson for next month.

**From the Class of 2019:** The junior class congress is excited to be planning the prom, which will be held at the Sheraton in Valley Forge (Kind of Prussia). The theme will be the Great Gatsby. Students are hard at work to make this a wonderful night.

**From Mrs. Lynn Janssen:** The annual Holiday Tea was held 12/13/17. All foods classes have been creating sweet and savory treats for teachers, counselors, custodians, aides, administrators, nurses, and Farina Staff. FCCLA members were serving. Thanks to post-prom for the use of their palm trees.

FCCLA's profits from last year's Mr. Methacton were used to help two families enjoy a more joyful holiday season this year. We made lists and were treated so kindly by the Oak's Target staff.

**From the Class of 2021:** The sales for the Risher Van Horn Flower fundraiser will end during the second week of January.

**From Element Creative Arts Publishing Club:** Give the gift of art! Element Creative Arts Magazine is on sale for $10.00. If you are interested in supporting the arts at Methacton High School, please purchase a copy of the 2016/17 2nd/3rd volume of Element today. Element Creative Arts Publishing Club is a student run interest group that designs and formats a magazine that showcases students' and faculty's creative writing and art. It's a beautiful representation of the many gifted and talented writers and artists in our Methacton Community. All proceeds go towards the production of this year's 2017/18 volume 4 of Element. Cost: $10.00 Contact: Lee Ann van der Kwast/ lvanderkwast@methacton.org or

Marilyn McCauley/ mmccauley@methacton.org with questions. Order Process: Use the Google Form link below to update your order information <https://goo.gl/forms/OwU2Gzr9Ozz9UxCC2>.

**Post Prom Report**

• The grant has been sent out and we are waiting to hear back. We are hopeful that we will get the full $1000.

• The Post Prom 2018 logo has been chosen and LoriAnn Verna will be sharing it in a newsletter along with other updates.

• The adult fundraiser planning for March 3 is well under way. The group is very organized and I think it will be very successful. We booked the caterer and venue this summer.

• We are still trying to get the decorators going, but we have about 1/3 of the spots taken. Hopefully, we will be able to get everyone more motivated after the holidays.

Next Home and School Meeting is February 8, 2018, at 7:00pm in the High School Library.