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**MVRHS Guidance Back to School Newsletter**  
2023 - 2024  
**Junior Year**

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**Welcome**

We hope you are having a great summer and are looking forward to an exciting junior year. As an 11th grader, you should be thinking about your post-secondary plans in a more serious manner. These plans could include two or four-year colleges, technical schools, work, Military, Americorps, travel, or many other options. Your high school career is half over, and the remaining time in high school seems to go by even faster. With this in mind, the guidance department wants to assist you to develop a transitional plan from high school and help you reach your goals and aspirations. As many of you already know, the more success you have in high school, the more options available to you after graduation. It is important to work hard academically throughout the rest of your high school days. You are still developing academically and socially, and a strong junior year shows you have the skills needed for the next step in your journey. This newsletter will highlight important dates and information that will hopefully make your junior year a success.

**Student Schedules- ADD/DROP Days**

Student schedules will be available for viewing on PowerSchool on August 14th. Every effort was made to honor the course requests you made in the spring. On a handful of occasions, there were class conflicts after the computer generated the master schedule. Also, a small number of elective classes were overenrolled and you might not have found a seat in that class. If you feel you need to make an adjustment to your class schedule, please email your guidance counselor beginning August 28th. They will fix your schedule ASAP and email you back.

After school begins there will be a two-week add/drop window to make final decisions on your

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**Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Guidance Department**

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schedule. During this window, students should seriously consider the classes they are enrolled in. Students will not be able to drop electives, or levels in academic classes, without permission of the teacher, approval of the director of guidance, and/or high school administration.

### **PSAT Testing**

The PSAT will be offered **Wednesday, October 11th**. Students can sign up in the guidance office beginning Friday, September 22nd. The cost of the test is \$17.00 (paid by cash or a check made payable to MVRHS.) The majority of our juniors are encouraged to take this test. It is a practice SAT (the test used in the college admissions process) that will help you examine your test-taking ability and areas you may need to work on. For the top scorers, it is used to determine eligibility for the National Merit program. Go to the [College Board website](#) for more information. If you have any questions please contact your guidance counselor.

### **Naviance**

Naviance is a program that all MVRHS students use during their four years of high school. Guidance counselors use Naviance to work with students on a variety of topics- personality profiles, career exploration, college major information, college search and post-secondary planning. As a junior, you should know that you can access your Naviance account through your school email. You should update your resume, and you can continue to use the program to help think about post-secondary plans. The counselors will be working with you during your junior year on how to use the Naviance program to its fullest potential.

### **Post High School Planning Event for Juniors and their Families**

**On Wednesday, November 29th from 6:30-7:30 pm**, guidance counselors will review all aspects of the post high school planning process including; the college admissions process, standardized testing, school visits, financial aid, school and job search, etc. We hope to answer all questions that parents/guardians have about the process. The information shared in this meeting will be used in our individual meetings with all 11th grade students and their parents/guardians. More information to come regarding this event.

### **Individual Post High School Planning Meeting with Juniors & Parent(s)/Guardian(s)**

In March-May, each junior and their parents/guardians will have the opportunity to meet with their guidance counselor. Your student will receive an email inviting them to sign up for their meeting.

During this meeting, we will:

- Review senior courses and plans
- Discuss your academic standing, GPA and class rank
- Discuss the SAT test and if this is appropriate and necessary for you to take
- Take an in-depth look at your specific interests, strengths, and potential future plans
- View results of the Naviance career interests and personal strengths profiles
- Explore the college process, including community college and trade or tech schools
- Explore alternatives to college and discuss the steps needed to reach your career goals

Please note that there is lots of information for juniors about the post-secondary process on the guidance link of our high school website.

## **SAT**

Go to [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for information about the SAT, and to register for the exam.

<b>Test Date</b>	<b>Regular Registration</b>	<b>Late Registration</b>
Oct 7, 2023	Sep 7, 2023	Sep 26, 2023
Nov 4, 2023	Oct 5, 2023	Oct 24, 2023
Dec 2, 2023	Nov 2, 2023	Nov 21, 2023
Mar 9, 2024 (Digital)	Feb 23, 2024	Coming soon
May 4, 2024 (Digital)	Apr 19, 2024	Coming soon
June 1, 2024 (Digital)	May 17, 2024	Coming soon

## **School Website**

The MVRHS school website, [www.mvrhs.org](http://www.mvrhs.org), has valuable information having to do with your schooling. Our Program of Studies, calendar, school announcements, wellness programs, student handbook, athletic information, and links to FamilyID & PowerSchool are all on the website. For guidance-related subjects, select the [Guidance](#) tab on the main navigation to reach our homepage. We strongly recommend that you visit this site to learn more about our many available resources.

## **PowerSchool**

PowerSchool is MVRHS's online student information system. PowerSchool offers students and parents real-time access to grades, attendance, homework assignments, and other class/school information. You can also email your teachers through PowerSchool. The PowerSchool Daily Bulletin is used to provide information to parents, students, teachers, and administrators about general school information including important events, fundraising activities, parent nights, grading terms, etc.

## **MVRHS Student Registration**

All students are required to complete/update their yearly school registration profile through FamilyID on [www.familyid.com](http://www.familyid.com) by Friday, September 1st. Please have your parent or guardian log into their account from last year or, if needed, create a new account on FamilyID and click on "Student Registration-Demographic & Medical 2023-2024". Only a person over the age of 18 can complete this registration and sign off on the required questions. It is suggested that you sit with your parent/guardian during this process as there is information and questions that you need to hear and agree to. If you are interested in participating in an MVRHS sport, you must also register on FamilyID under *Athletics* for each season you intend to play. Again, this registration must be completed by a parent/guardian over the age of 18 at [www.familyid.com](http://www.familyid.com). If you have any questions, please contact Maureen O'Mally ([maureen.omalley@mvyyps.org](mailto:maureen.omalley@mvyyps.org) or call 508-693-1033, ext. 110).

## **Clubs and Activities**

Visit [www.mvrhs.org](http://www.mvrhs.org) and look under the *Student Life* tab to learn about ways to get involved. Remember to keep a record of your activities, jobs, volunteer experiences, and awards in the resume section of Naviance.

**Closing Remarks**

Your counselor is here to help you with any questions, problems, or situations which may arise. In addition, your counselor will start focusing more closely on developing your post high school plan with you. We encourage you to also start having serious discussions with your parents and guardians about your future goals, if you haven't yet. You will need their support on this journey, so please keep them informed every step of the way!

Good luck, and we look forward to working with you! As always, please do not hesitate to come by or contact us at any time with questions or concerns.