



MVRHS Guidance Back to School Newsletter
2023 - 2024
Senior Year

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Welcome

We hope you are having a great summer and are looking forward to the next school year. Your last year of high school is approaching fast! It is an exciting year, but it can also be filled with questions and uncertainties. Our goal is to help and support you with whatever you need for your post high school plans, and ensure that you have a transitional plan in place at the end of your senior year. It is important to work hard academically throughout the rest of your high school career. A strong senior year shows you have the skills and desire needed for your next step, whatever it may be. This newsletter will outline important dates and programs to help keep you on track.

Student Schedules- Add/Drop Days

Student schedules will be available for viewing on PowerSchool on **August 14th**. We are adding special add/drop days dedicated solely to seniors on **August 24th and 25th**. If you feel you need to make an adjustment to your class schedule, or want to discuss an option for a work study, internship, TA, or Independent Study, you should email your guidance counselor beginning August 24th. Most of the questions and schedule changes can be handled via email, but if you and your counselor believe an in-person meeting is important, counselors will be available Friday, August 25th to meet with seniors by appointment only.

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

Important Reminders for seniors who plan to apply to college or any type of educational program:

Senior and Parent/Guardian College Application Event

On **September 21st, at 6:30 pm**, the guidance department will be sponsoring a College Application Night. The counselors will review the college application procedure for seniors and their parents/guardians. It will be an informative night of questions and answers to help you move forward in the college application process. More information to come.

MEFA College Financing Event for Senior Parent/Guardians

On **October 17th, at 6:30 pm**, MEFA (Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority) will be conducting a presentation for MVRHS students and their families on how to navigate the college financial aid process. They will review the FAFSA process and explain the CSS profile as well.

Some basic reminders for college applications: (We will review all of this at college application night!)

- Hopefully you have been working on many of the college prep items in the “Summer Prep for Senior Year” email we sent you in June, but if not, you can access that ‘to do’ list on the [Guidance webpage](#) under [Class of 2024](#).
- If you have not done so already, please decide who you will ask for a letter of recommendation. You should have at least 1 letter from an academic teacher. You should ask them soon after returning to school and inform them of your first college deadline. Please let your counselor or Cindy in Guidance know who will be writing a letter for you, so we can add them to your Naviance account. **If you are using the Common Application, please do not use the feature that invites a teacher to write a recommendation.** All teacher recommendations are processed through Naviance.
- If you also need or would like a letter of recommendation from your guidance counselor, adjustment counselor or administrator, there is a google form that you will need to fill out. We will email all seniors in September with more details and a link to the google form.
- Update your Naviance account regularly. You should have schools listed in the ‘Colleges I am Thinking About’ section. We will guide you through the process of moving them to the ‘Colleges I am Applying to’ section, at your senior meeting.
- You need to check your email frequently! This is how your guidance counselor and colleges will communicate with you.
- Be sure to check all of the requirements and deadlines for each college, these can vary quite a bit!

Registering for the SAT

If you are planning to take the SAT again before applying to college, you need to register directly through the College Board at www.collegeboard.com. If students want to send their scores to a college, they need to be sent directly to the colleges from CollegeBoard. If you are unsure if you need to take the SAT, please discuss this with your guidance counselor.

SAT

Go to www.collegeboard.com for more information and to register for the SAT.

Test Date	Regular Registration	Late Registration
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

Senior Meetings with Counselors

During the first semester, counselors will meet with all seniors to review their progress on post high school plans. Counselors will be emailing every senior with instructions on how to sign up for a senior meeting. Counselors will help you solidify your plans and will do a review of your applications before you submit them. If you are not planning to attend college, or are unsure of your plans after high school, we will work with you to formulate a plan that makes sense for you and is aligned with your future goals.

Local Scholarship Information Night for Senior Students & their Parents/Guardians

On January 23rd at 6:00 pm, the guidance department will be hosting an informational night about the [MVRHS local scholarship program](#). We will give instructions and answer questions about the local scholarship program and application process - which will open January 23rd with a submission deadline of March 15th. More information to come!

Local Scholarship Application Deadline is March 15th

Application information for the MVRHS local scholarship program will be available during the first week of January and is due March 15th. **This is a strict deadline. Please fully complete and submit materials before this date.** Guidance department staff members are available to help guide you through this process and answer any questions.

Final Class Rank Determination

Student's first official high school GPA and decile class rank will be available to all seniors by the end of September. This will be included on the high school transcript that is shared with colleges.. GPA will be updated at the end of the first semester. This is the final time GPA and rank will be recalculated before graduation. The GPA that is recalculated at the end of the first semester will also determine the Top 20 students in the Class of 2024 that will be acknowledged at Honors Night in May.

Important General Information for all Seniors:

MVRHS Student Registration

All students are required to complete/update their yearly school registration profile through FamilyID on 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. If you have any questions, please contact Maureen O'Mally (maureen.omalley@mvyps.org or call 508-693-1033, ext. 110).

School Website

The MVRHS school website, 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 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.

Closing Remarks

Senior year is a busy time and an important transition year. Hopefully you are communicating regularly with your families and support systems, you will need all the help you can get! We are also here for you. This is your process and you need to be invested and on top of your plans. We can support you by providing reminders, updates and checklists. However, that only helps if you take the time to read our communications!! We promise that everything we send is important and should be read!!

Have a great rest of the summer. We look forward to being a part of your journey towards your future. Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time with questions or concerns!