



MVRHS Guidance Newsletter
Welcome to Freshman Year
2024-2025

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Welcome

We hope you are having a great summer and are looking forward to beginning high school in September. Anticipating the start of high school is usually very exciting – a new school building that is much bigger than your elementary school, new teachers who don't know you, and a new level of expectations, will add a little sense of nervousness to the excitement. Please understand that with all these unknowns, there are some basic constants that will invariably lead to a productive freshman year. Those who typically succeed at high school are organized, do their homework, and are involved in school activities. These seem simple enough and many freshmen who enter school in September with intentions of following these basic guidelines do succeed.

Before school starts in September, decide what type of student you want to be at the high school. Will you understand that it is easier to be the student who takes the time to do their homework, meet with their teachers after school and during FLEX, and utilize the school library for research or as a quiet place to do their homework? If you do these things and take interesting electives, play sports, join one of our many clubs, and/or participate in the musical/dramatic productions, you

will most assuredly be a happy freshman. You will look back in June 2025 on your freshman year and wonder what you were nervous about.

Student Schedules

Student schedules will be available for viewing on PowerSchool on August 15th (information about how to create your PowerSchool account is listed later in this newsletter). 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. Other than these few exceptions, your 2024-2025 schedule is a product of what you registered for in concert with your elementary guidance counselor and teacher recommendations.

If you feel you need to make an adjustment to your class schedule, email Mr. Fiorito. Please understand that Mr. Fiorito will not be in the office full-time until August 19th, but he will make every effort to respond in a timely manner.

Add/Drop

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. After this time, students will not be able to drop electives, or levels in academic classes, without permission of the teacher, approval of Mr. Fiorito, and/or high school administration.

Summer Work

Certain subjects require students to complete summer work. All courses that require work and associated assignments are listed on the high school website on the [Summer](#) page.

Freshman Orientation ~ Friday, August 30th from 7:30 am - 12:00 pm

On this day the school belongs to FRESHMEN ONLY, and you won't want to miss it! After your first bus ride or parent drop-off, you will head to the PAC (Performing Arts Center) for your first MVRHS assembly. You will have an opportunity to check out the school, follow your schedule, walk in your new halls & classrooms, and meet your teachers.

Freshman Guidance Support with Mr. Fiorito & Ms. Coogan

Mr. Fiorito and Ms. Coogan will meet individually with each 9th-grade student throughout September and October. During these meetings, they will talk with you about classes, homework, schedule, and how your transition is going. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to stop by the guidance department during the school day for an accurate answer or help. If you need to set up a meeting. You will want to introduce yourself to Mrs. Grant, who sits at the desk just beyond the Guidance entrance. She will help you out!

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, just click on [Guidance](#) to reach our homepage. We strongly recommend that you visit this site to learn more about our many available resources.

MVRHS Student Registration

All students are required to complete/update their yearly school registration profile through [FamilyID](#) by **Friday, August 23rd**. 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 2024-2025”. 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* before your season begins. 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 call 508-693-1033, ext. 110.

Clubs and Activities

One of the best ways to have fun and learn about what you might want to do in the future is to get involved in school clubs and activities. Go to the school website, 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 (which is a post-secondary planning tool you will learn about during the first semester).

Important Information for Parents/Guardians

- It is your responsibility to be familiar with the [MVRHS Student Handbook](#), it can be found on the school website, www.mvrhs.org under the *Student Life* tab.
- If you have questions about homework, quizzes, tests, grades, makeup work, etc., please contact the teacher directly. You can email them directly through PowerSchool or Google Classroom.
- Teachers do not have phones in their individual classrooms, so you should email teachers with questions. A 24-hour window should be anticipated for most messages to be returned by our staff.
- School attendance is probably the most important indicator of school success. If your child is going to miss school for any reason, please call the attendance line, at 508-693-1033 x235.
- If a student is going to miss school for a prolonged period of time due to illness please provide a doctor's note to the school nurse and then contact the guidance office. Students should email their teachers and stay up to date by checking Google Classroom as much as possible when out.

As exciting a time this is for incoming freshmen, it can be a stressful time for parents and guardians. Students are entering a world that is bigger and harder for parents to control. While most of you are probably *celebrating* your student's next step on the educational ladder, you may also be bemoaning the fact that it will now be harder to keep tabs on their daily academic performance. We have tried to make it easier for parents to communicate with teachers through various platforms (PowerSchool, Google Classroom, emails, newsletters, and the school website). Consider bookmarking the MVRHS [calendar](#), [important dates](#), and [school schedule](#).

MVRHS communicates with students and families primarily through weekly email blasts. All school-wide announcements (including the weekly updates) will be posted on the [School Announcements](#) page of the

MVRHS website. Specific information for the Class of 2028 will also be communicated via email/text throughout the school year.

Student IDs

Freshman will receive an ID at the start of school. MVRHS students should have their student IDs throughout the day. In order to expedite the lunch line, the cafeteria will be using student ID barcodes. Students that do not have their ID will need to go to a separate line to punch their cards in, which will likely take longer. If you have lost your student ID, please [fill out the following form](#) to request a replacement. We will print another ID for you free of charge. Any subsequent cards are subject to a fee.

Technology

- **PowerSchool**

PowerSchool is the MVRHS online student information system. This is where students can view their 2024-2025 schedules. PowerSchool also offers students and parents access to grades, attendance, homework assignments, and other class/school information. Students can also email teachers through PowerSchool. Freshmen will access PowerSchool with their school-issued MVRHS.org Google accounts. A separate email will be sent on August 15th with Google account login information. Parents/guardians will receive a separate email providing access information and instructions on how to create a PowerSchool parent account on August 15th.

- **Phone Plan: Away for the Day**

As many of you may have already heard, MVRHS is considering implementing a new "Away for the Day" cell phone initiative, aimed at creating a more focused learning environment. This change would require students to keep their cell phones away during school hours. Once the final handbook language is approved, we will share information with you about the when/how/why. Thank you for your understanding and support as we work to enhance the learning experience for our students.

- **Chromebooks**

This year we are transitioning to school-issued Chromebooks for all students. This change is part of our effort to enhance the learning experience, streamline technology support, and create a more consistent computing environment across all classrooms. Personal computers will no longer be allowed during regular school hours and no personal devices will be allowed on the school network. For more information on this change, [click here](#). We ask that all students [fill out this form](#) informing the school of their current Chromebook status. Students who already have a school issued Chromebook do not need to take any action. Students who need a school issued Chromebook are welcome to pick them up from Rick Mello, IT Director beginning the week of Aug 19th from 9-10am in the IT office.

In conclusion, we want to reiterate how excited we are to welcome the **Class of 2028**.

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