



COUNSELOR

CONNECTION

VOL. IV. 1/23/2019

"WITHOUT AMBITION ONE STARTS NOTHING. WITHOUT WORK ONE FINISHES NOTHING. THE PRIZE WILL NOT BE SENT TO YOU. YOU HAVE TO WIN IT."

—RALPH WALDO EMERSON

Term two closes on **January 25th!** Semester 2 schedules will be handed out in homerooms on 1/25. Grades will be available on ASPEN **Friday, 2/1/19**. Parent/teacher conferences are being held on **Wednesday, 2/6 from 6-8:30pm**. To schedule time with a teacher or counselor, please follow the instructions sent via email.

Looking ahead, course selection will start in early March. More information to come regarding this process. If a student is considering moving up a level next year in a subject, she/he should be having that conversation with this year's teacher.

Reminders:

Extra Help!

Students who would like extra help in *math* should take advantage of the Math Lab in room 253. The Math Lab is open from 7:30 am- 1:00 pm and is staffed with a Math teacher all day.

Students who would like extra help with a *writing* assignment should take advantage of the Writing Conference in room 338. Writing Conference is available to all students every block of the day and is

Staffed by two English teachers. Both of these supports are available for students to utilize during studies or during lunch..

Eligibility for Spring Sports is based on term 2 grades, which must include at least five C- grades or better in major subjects and passing PE.

Spring sports tryouts are **March 18th.**

9TH GRADE NEWS:

You've made it halfway through your first year of high school! You will soon be picking classes for next year. Counselors meet with all students about this, so if questions come up, we will help you. Also, your counselor will be checking in with you if it appears that you're struggling in a certain subject. Please see above for extra help resources.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 2/1/19- Term 2 grades available

10TH GRADE NEWS:

We will continue with career exploration in the classroom over the month of February. Also, your counselor will be checking in with you if it appears that you're struggling in a certain subject. Please see above for extra help resources.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 2/1/19- Term 2 grades available
- 3/11/19 - course selection begins for the 2019-2020 school year.

11TH GRADE NEWS:

During the week of 1/28, counselors will be visiting junior history classes for **College Planning Presentations**. We'll review the college search process, important dates, etc., and answer questions to make the college search process a little less dubious. Regarding your grades, your counselor will be checking in with you if it appears that you're struggling in a certain subject. We will help you find resources for extra help.

College Planning Night for Parents of Juniors will be held on Tuesday, 1/29 at 7pm at MHS.

Come learn about the ins and outs of the college search process!

AP exam registration will begin Monday, February 4th. Be on the lookout for the registration forms and AP Bulletin in your AP classes. AP exams are \$94.00 per exam unless you qualify for a fee reduction.

SAT Prep Bootcamp!!:

A 5-week long SAT prep course will run on Tuesday, from 4-6pm, beginning January 29th. The fee is \$100. For more information and to register, please contact Mr. Bob Gallagher (bgallagher@mpsd.org)

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 2/1/19- Term 2 grades available
- 1/29/19- 7pm at **MHS College Planning Night for Junior Parents**

SAT Test Dates:

| 2018-19 SAT Test Date | Registration Date | Scores Back Date** |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Saturday, March 9, 2019 | February 8, 2019 | March 22, 2019 |
| Saturday, May 4, 2019 | April 5, 2019 | May 17, 2019 |
| Saturday, June 1, 2019 | May 3, 2019 | July 10, 2019 |

ACT TEST DATES:

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| February 9, 2019 | January 11, 2019 | January 18, 2019 |
| April 13, 2019 | March 8, 2019 | March 25, 2019 |
| June 8, 2019 | May 3, 2019 | May 20, 2019 |
| July 13, 2019 | June 14, 2019 | June 24, 2019 |

12TH GRADE NEWS:

Important! Your counselor will *automatically* send your mid-year grades to any college that you have requested transcripts for on the yellow sheets up until this point. There's no need to make a separate request as long as you've already completed a yellow transcript form.

Also, please let your counselor know when you've heard a decision from a college that you've applied to. We want to keep track of this information. Thank you!

MHS Scholarship Program books and instructions will be distributed to all seniors during an assembly on Thursday February 7th.

Speaking of scholarships....please check Canvas announcements for other scholarships that we want you to know about.

If you HAVE ALREADY registered for the **AFL/CIO Scholarship exam**, it will be administered on Wed., 2/6/ at 9am. At MHS. Please check your email for details.

AP exam registration will begin January 22. Be on the lookout for the registration forms and AP Bulletin in your AP classes.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 2/1/19-Report cards issued
- Week of 2/4/19- Mid-Year grade reports will be sent to colleges.
- 2/7/19--MHS Scholarship Program Assembly
- Week of 3/11--You're not picking classes!

***COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT:* High Point University**

Counselor Mike Ruuska Visited High Point, Elon, Duke and UNC Chapel Hill in November. Here are his take-aways from High Point:

Ten years ago Dr. Nido Qubein (a CEO at three different Fortune 500 companies) took over and pushed the boundaries of higher education. He wanted to do things differently. HPU has raised a tremendous amount of money that they have reinvested in the university to create one of the most impressive campuses I have ever seen. They've developed exceptional facilities and hired some of the best professors and deans nationwide. For example, their Doctorate of Physical Therapy program is in its third year, yet has the best facility and technology in the country. This facility and cutting edge technology allowed them to hire away the Dean of PT at Duke and bring him to HPU.

HPU values character development (Dr. Qubein himself, teaches every freshmen a seminar on just this topic) and teaching life skills that employers are looking for. One example is the 1924 Steak House on campus--a five star restaurant where students can eat once per month for free with a reservation. There is a dress code and etiquette that is expected to be adhered to and if not, you are asked to leave. Staff come around and correct student etiquette flaws. The mind set is that this is real life education; interviews, deals, etc. take place over meals. Small talk, as an art, is developed and valued through this process. Overall, the attention to detail on the campus is impressive

HPU seems less impressed with traditional credentials for professors. They value experience. For example, they have hired Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak (amongst others) to work with their students.

Facts

- 96% of graduating class of 2017 employed in a major or in graduate school within 6 months.
- 7 day a week campus. Only 23% of campus is from North Carolina
- Top majors are Business, Biology, Exercise Science, DPT (graduate), Entrepreneurship, Interior Design, Event Management (#1 in world)
- Every student is assigned a "Success Coach" which acts as an advisor/de facto guidance counselor
- Test optional AVG SAT is 1240, ACT 26. 26% of most recent class were accepted test optional. More interested in transcript. However, without SAT/ACT not eligible for Presidential level scholarships or Fellowes
- New majors being introduced in 2019 are Computer and Electrical Engineering
- Early Decision matters. 91% of their 2018 ED applicants were accepted, which totaled 35% of the class. 78% of EA were accepted. 50% of regular accepted. HPU believes they are unique and as a result are not a good fit for everyone. They value those students who have visited and understand who they are and what they are about.
- Consistently ranked as having one of the 3 best dorm facilities in the country. 99% stay on campus. Cars are allowed but parking was identified as an issue by students.
- Division 1 athletics
- 5000 + students. 10,100 applicants last year (most ever) for 1400 spots
- Small class size. Typically less than 24-1. Usually 17-1. Professor involvement seems genuine and very interactive.