

# **Junior Year Guidance Newsletter – August 2017**

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## **Welcome**

We hope you are having a great summer and are looking forward an exciting junior year. As an upperclassperson, you have to begin 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 faster. With this in mind, the guidance department wants to assist you to develop a transitional plan from high school and help you in reaching 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 a developing person and a strong junior year shows you have the skills needed for the next step, whatever that may be. This newsletter will help you know important dates and programs we will be working with you on.

## **Summer Scramble for Schedules will be August 23, 24, 25 (Wed., Thurs., Fri.) from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Students may come to Guidance and sign in to see a counselor during this time to add and drop courses and make schedule changes and adjustments before school starts. These are not appointments but a first-come, first-serve method that works well.

## **PSAT Testing Wednesday, October 11 High School Cafeteria 7:40 a.m.**

The PSAT administration will be on the morning of **Wednesday, October 11 in the high school cafeteria**. Students can sign up in guidance beginning Thursday, September 14. 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) which will help us 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. Take a look at this preliminary SAT at the [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) website. If you have any question, please contact your guidance counselor.

## **Naviance**

Naviance is an internet product for personality profiles, career exploration, college major information, college search, resume and post secondary planning. We introduced this product to the juniors through period long workshops. Parents were sent their codes last school year. We believe this will help students and parents in this very important process.

## **Junior Parents Night on Post Secondary Planning**

On **Tuesday, January 9 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center** guidance counselors will review all aspects of the post-secondary planning process including testing, school admission process, school visits, financial aid, school and job search, etc. We hope to answer all questions parents have about the process. The information shared in this meeting will be used in our individual meeting with juniors and their parents.

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**Individual Post Secondary Planning Meeting with Juniors and Parents**

In **February** a period long appointment will be made for each junior and his/her parents or guardians. During this meeting, we will:

- choose senior courses
- view results of the Naviance career search
- examine career and major options
- distribute concrete career information
- explore school, college and job options using the Naviance software
- receive up-to-date grade point average and class rank
- review test results and future test options
- examine alternatives to college and review the next steps in the process

In the past years these meetings have been well attended and received. **You will receive a notice through the mail on the time and date of your appointment.**

### **SAT I and SAT Subject Tests Dates for Juniors** [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

<b>Test Date</b>	<b>Regular Registration</b>	<b>Late Registration</b>
March 10, 2018	February 9, 2018	February 28, 2018
May 5, 2018	April 6, 2018	April 25, 2018
June 2, 2018	May 3, 2018	May 23, 2018

### **Follow-up Meeting with Juniors**

In May, counselors will have a brief follow-up meeting with each junior to review progress and answer any new questions or concerns.

### **Required Student Registration with Family ID**

MVRHS will now be using *FamilyID* to gather MEDICAL and DEMOGRAPHIC information. Registration process should be completed by AUGUST 30. In future years, your child's information will carry over and parents will only need to review, update and confirm.

#### **What to do to register your child using *FamilyID*:**

1. Go to [www.familyid.com](http://www.familyid.com)
2. If your child is an athlete, you may already have an account. Sign into that account.
3. If not, you will need to create a new account.
  - a. Your email address will be your log in
  - b. Create your own password
  - c. Identify your school (Martha's Vineyard Regional High School)
4. There will be three clickable links
  - a. MVRHS Demographics (REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS): All parents must complete this important information. This includes emergency contact info, field trip permissions and general contact information
  - b. MVRHS Medical Form (REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS): All parents must complete this to provide information to the school nurse
  - c. MVRHS Sports Registration: The parent of any student participating in a sport must complete Sports Registration to play.

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Parents/guardians and students will use their already created access codes for Portal Plus. Portal Plus is an internet based service providing access to student schedules and assignments, attendance, and discipline reports. This will enhance our communication and cooperation to better meet the needs of the students.

### **School Website**

The website [www.mvrhs.org](http://www.mvrhs.org) has valuable information on all areas having to do with your schooling. Our program of studies, calendar, student handbook, school profile, and links to Family ID and the Portal are on the website. For the guidance related subjects, just click on guidance on our homepage. We recommend you visit this site to see the many available resources.

### **Closing Remarks**

We know this can be an exciting time but it also can be a stressful time. We hope to help guide and assist you through this process. Keep working hard at your schoolwork and get involved in the community and school. Healthy activities lead to healthy minds. See you soon and enjoy the rest of the summer. The school website [www.MVRHS.org](http://www.MVRHS.org) has very useful information on all aspects of our program; just click on guidance.