MUHS NEWSLETTER  SEPTEMBER 2015

OPENING ASSEMBLY

Images of students and faculty during an assembly, with students seated and listening to a speech by a student in a dress. There are also images of students receiving certificates.
OPENING ASSEMBLY Cont.
MUHS Peer Leaders and incoming 9th graders spent time together getting to know one another before the start of the school year on August 25th. Peer Leaders assisted the incoming class of 2019 in navigating MUHS in regards to class schedules, the school layout, and ways in which to successfully start off the new school year. Peer Leaders and faculty stressed the importance of 9th graders getting involved in their school and highlighted the importance of joining various clubs, the arts, and sports. Additionally, Peer Leaders were on hand the first 3 days of school to guide 9th graders through their new school. Throughout Quarter 1, Peer Leaders will attend and co-lead 9th grade advisories to help establish a strong start to the school year as well build a community within each advisory group.

Peer Leaders will also be working in the next month on planning for the 9th Grade Day at Bread Loaf on September 21st. This is a day when Peer Leaders and 9th graders spend the day in the mountains of Ripton, engaged in various experiential educational activities. Historically, it has been a day where 9th grade advisories further bond through creative group problem-solving while having a great time.

MUHS Prevention Program will be accepting applications for the Women Can Do Conference on October 15th. This event is sponsored by The Vermont Works for Women and held at Vermont Technical College in Randolph. This is a one-day career immersion opportunity for high school girls across Vermont. Workshops highlight careers in skilled trades and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math fields). Informational packets are available in the Guidance Office.

MUHS Prevention and the Guidance Department will be offering various group opportunities throughout the first semester and encourage parents to contact Brooke Jette at bjette@acsu.org with inquiries.
The annual 9th Grade Parent BBQ is quickly approaching and will take place the evening of MUHS Open House on September 10th. All 9th grade parents are invited to arrive before the Open House for dinner and a brief presentation on what to expect in their students’ first year of high school. More information will be posted on our Web-site in the coming week.

Welcome Parents of the Class of 2019

Veggie Burgers
Watermelon

Be Our Guest for the 9th Grade Parent Cookout

Date: September 10, 2015
(same evening of open house beginning @ 6:45 p.m.)

Cookout Time: 5:45 p.m. ~ 6:45 p.m.

Place: MUHS Commons
Open House

This year’s Open House for semester one classes is scheduled for Thursday, September 10, 2015. The purpose of this evening is for you to follow an abbreviated schedule of your student’s day. Teachers will give an overview of their courses and discuss objectives, procedures, and grading systems. We hope that you will find this an informative opportunity to learn about your student’s educational program.

**Grade 9 parents** are invited to attend a cookout in the Commons beginning at 5:45 pm followed by a presentation.

There will also be a meeting prior to the Open House at 6:00 pm in the auditorium for the **parents of grade 12** students to discuss upcoming events.

The evening’s schedule for Open House is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:45 pm – 6:45 pm</td>
<td>Commons</td>
<td>Grade 9 Parent Cookout/Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm – 6:45 pm</td>
<td>Auditorium</td>
<td>Grade 12 Parent Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:45 pm – 7:00 pm</td>
<td>Cafeteria</td>
<td>Pick up student schedules and maps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm – 7:15 pm</td>
<td>Advisory</td>
<td>Grade 9 – 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:20 pm – 7:35 pm</td>
<td>Block 1</td>
<td>1 7:20 pm – 7:27 pm  2 7:28 pm – 7:35 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:40 pm – 7:55 pm</td>
<td>Block 2</td>
<td>3 7:40 pm – 7:47 pm  4 7:48 pm – 7:55 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 pm – 8:20 pm</td>
<td>Block 3</td>
<td>5 8:00 pm – 8:15 pm  6 8:00 pm – 8:15 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7 8:00 pm – 8:09 pm  8 8:11 pm – 8:20 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:25 pm – 8:40 pm</td>
<td>Block 4</td>
<td>9 8:25 pm – 8:32 pm  10 8:33 pm – 8:40 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Please Note:** **Hannaford Career Center** Open House will be held this same evening from 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm.
SCHOOL PICTURES

Lifetouch National School Studios will be at MUHS on Friday, September 11, 2015 to take school pictures. Order forms will be given to students in advisory on September 2, 2015. You can also go online at mylifetouch.com to place your order. Students may have their pictures taken during guided study or unscheduled time. Grade 12 students may use the school photograph for their senior squares.

PARENT CONFERENCES

Parent Conferences for semester one will be held on November 5 and November 6, 2015. These conferences are 15 minutes each with teachers of your choice and will provide you with an opportunity to receive specific feedback concerning student progress. The schedule will be: Thursday from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. and Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Parents may sign-up for conferences at the Open House or by calling the faculty administrative assistant, Julie Dodson, at 382-1107 beginning October 1, 2015. We look forward to seeing you at our Open House.
College Information Night for Juniors & Seniors

Parents and students are invited to a College Information Night on October 8th from 7:00-8:30pm in the MUHS Auditorium. Manuel Carballo, Middlebury College Director of Admissions will be our guest speaker. Prior to Manuel’s presentation, counselors will provide an update on the use of Naviance; the software we use to research post-secondary schools, submit transcripts, recommendations, and school reports to colleges. Please call the Guidance Office with any questions at 382-1195.

College Fair

The College Fair is sponsored by the New England Association for College Admission Counseling (NEACAC) and is held at the University of Vermont (UVM) on Thursday, September 17th from 6:30-8:30pm and Friday, September 18th from 9:00-11am. This is a chance for students to meet with more than 200 College Admission Representatives. The Guidance Department will be taking up to 75 juniors to the College Fair on Friday, September 18th. Juniors must sign up in the Guidance Office by September 11th.

PSAT

The PSAT is the practice or preliminary test for the SAT. The test is also the entrance exam for the National Merit Scholarship program for 11th graders. The PSAT measures critical reading, math and writing skills. This year, the PSAT will be given to all juniors at Middlebury Union High School on Wednesday, October, 14th. The Guidance Department covers the cost of this test for all juniors. We will be distributing a PSAT bulletin to each junior through advisories in the next few weeks. The bulletin provides additional information about the test as well as a practice test. The PSAT is a great opportunity to practice and prepare for the SAT, which all students interested in attending college should take in the spring of junior year.

SAT

The first SAT of the school year is scheduled for October 3rd. The regular registration deadline was September 3rd. Late registration deadline is September 18th. The next available SAT is scheduled for November 7th with a registration deadline of October 9th.

ACT

The next ACT of the school year is scheduled for October 24th. The regular registration deadline is September 18th. The ACT is another college entrance exam that is accepted by all four-year colleges and universities in the US. There are several colleges that will accept the ACT in lieu of subject tests. Please stop by the Guidance Office with questions about this opportunity.

VSAC Paying for College Night

On Thursday, October 29th at 6:30pm, Carrie Harlow from the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) will be presenting the annual “Paying for College” evening program held in the auditorium. Carrie will help clarify issues related to the financial aid process including: how to apply for financial aid, which forms are required, and how financial aid is awarded. She will also be available to answer any specific questions parents may have about financial aid. For more information about the evening presentation, please contact the Guidance Office.
**Personalized Learning Plans**

For the past twelve years students at MUHS have used Personalized Learning Plans (PLPs). A personalized learning plan is a description of a student’s unique pathway through education, graduation and post-secondary planning. Students develop their PLPs during their first year at MUHS and revisit their plans during each successive school year. This year to implement PLPs for 9th graders, MUHS will be using Naviance, an online career and college planning program with built-in PLP capacity. Naviance allows students to collaborate with educators and parents to set goals and tasks, search for colleges, and explore careers based on personal skills and interests. MUHS has been using Naviance for career and college planning for the last six years and will expand its use this fall with the PLP component. In order to complete all of the PLP tasks during the course of the 2015/2016 school year, we will have several extended advisory periods and special events. An example of one of the special events that is in the planning stages is an alternative half day for all students on October 14, 2015. On this morning, all current 11th grade students will take the PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test).

While juniors are taking the PSAT the morning of October 14th, there will be planned activities for 9th, 10th and 12th grade students to continue working on their personalized learning plans. The activities are listed below:

- **9th Grade:** Complete Core Values and Career Values Survey using Naviance
  Attend a presentation by Jared Campbell about planning for a successful high school experience
  Create goals for: school, outside of school and life after high school

- **10th Grade:** Complete Career Interest Inventory using Naviance
  Visit 2 programs of choice at the Hannaford Career Center

- **11th Grade:** Take the PSAT

- **12th Grade:** Students will choose between 2 workshops depending on their post-secondary plans:
  1. Writing your college essay
  2. Writing a cover letter and resume

Please feel free to contact the Guidance Department with any questions about personalized learning plans and their implementation. We will keep families informed through the school newsletter as we continue the planning process.

**Reminders from the Guidance Office**

- If you are a member of a fall sports team and would like physical education credit for your participation, please sign up in the Guidance Office.

- Attention Seniors: The University of Vermont Early Action deadline is November 1st! UVM waives the application fee for any Vermont student who applies early action. Please see your counselor with questions. In addition, seniors who are applying Early Decision or Early Action to any colleges, please stop in to make an appointment with your school counselor as soon as possible.
Welcome back everyone!

The Science Department is excited to welcome the class of 2019. We would also like to welcome the school’s newest science teacher Justin Gay. Mr. Gay is teaching Earth/Physical Science, AP Environmental Science, and Biology. He is also an assistant coach with the varsity football program. We would also like to welcome student teacher Gwen Fredrickson. Ms. Fredrickson comes to us from Cornell University, she is shadowing Mr. Johnstone throughout the first semester and is very excited to step into the role of classroom teacher.

If students are interested in working on a hands-on project, talk with Mr. Harrington (H-002) about UVM’s TASC Challenge. There is a team of students working towards the competition on November 21st at the University of Vermont. The more, the merrier, so get involved. For more information, see Mr. Harrington or visit http://www.uvm.edu/~cems/TASC/?Page=rules.html&SM=TASC_challenge_submen u.html which has all the official information.

We hope everyone has a great school year.
Last spring, Yale invited all members of the Class of 2019 to nominate and write a letter of recommendation in support of a teacher who had a tremendous impact on their high school career. Luke Benz decided to nominate Lisa O’Connor and she was selected as one of 51 teachers to receive the award!!!

The Yale Office of Undergraduate Admissions has the distinct pleasure of recognizing educators as recipients of the 2015 Yale Educator Award. The Yale Educator Recognition Program recognizes outstanding educators from around the world who have supported and inspired their students to achieve at high levels. Matriculating students are invited to nominate high school educators, and a committee composed of Yale admissions officers reviews the nominations individually and designates recipients. Of this year’s 276 nominees, who represent 40 states and 15 countries, 51 teachers and 28 counselors were selected to receive the award. In August, the winners were sent engraved desk sets and congratulatory letters, and administrators of the high schools were notified of their achievement.

The entire Yale Admissions Office credits the excellent quality of the Yale student body to educators like these, who shape their students long before they attend Yale, and would like to thank these and all educators for their ongoing efforts in motivating and supporting their students.
Success Saturday is back! The Learning Lab will be open for tutoring from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the following Saturdays: October 10, November 21, January 9, March 26, and May 21. These dates were selected to correspond with the dates nearest to interim grade reports and the end of each quarter. Students **must sign up in advance** in the Learning Lab. Snacks are provided. Success Saturday is a great way to stay caught up or to get caught up, to study for a test, or to work on a paper.

The Learning Lab provides tutoring in a positive and supportive environment. Tutoring is available to all MUHS students for all subjects and classes. Tutoring is provided by two licensed teachers, peer tutors, Middlebury College students, and community volunteers.

The Learning Lab is open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. and is located in room H-103. Please call Abigale Stannard-Mackey or Tammi Beattie at 382–1165 if you have any questions.

Fall Play auditions for *Into the Woods* will take place on September 16 from 3-6pm and September 17th from 6:00-8:00pm. If you have questions regarding the play, email sbohlersmall@middlebury.edu.
MUHS was busy this past summer with twenty-three students taking part in Summer School. This program provided students a great opportunity to improve on their previous school year performance. Students enrolled in world history, math, science, or English class assuming they had completed the course during the 2014-2015 school year. This was a remedial-supplementary program and was offered to all students who earn a C- or lower during the regular school year.

The Summer School faculty included Al Calzini (world history), Ben Krahn (English), Tammi Beattie (science), and Kerianne Severy (math). The director was Cindy Atkins.

Twenty students successfully completed the classes they were enrolled in and therefore earned MUHS credit (or improved upon their previous grade). This is an accomplishment that these students and their families should be proud of, it takes commitment to go to school for five weeks in the summer!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Opening Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Opening Assembly Cont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Grade 9 Parent BBQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Open House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>School Pics./Parent Conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Guidance Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Guidance Department Cont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Science Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Yale Educator Award Winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Success Sat./Fall Auditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Summer School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Catch us on the Web: http://muhs-school.org/