

Navigating Senior Year

Class of 2020

M E D I N A H I G H S C H O O L

Congratulations! Senior year is here and it is a very busy year! This newsletter is an informational tool for all our seniors and parents of seniors attending Medina High School, the Medina County Career Center and students attending College Credit Plus classes.

Senior information is posted on Blackboard in the Class of 2020 Organization and on the high school website at www.medinabees.org. The daily Student Bulletin/Morning Announcements is a great source of information and is also available on our website. If you have any questions, please contact the school office at (330) 636-3200.

- ◆ **Jostens** will be in the Senior Commons through all the lunch periods assisting seniors with their orders for graduation announcements, caps and gowns, and other graduation items on **September 18, 2019 (A-L) and September 19, 2019 (M-Z)**. Jostens will also be at MCCC on a date to be announced.
- ◆ The **Homecoming Pep, Parade and Football Game** will be on **September 20, 2019**. The Homecoming dance is Saturday, September 21, 2019, 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. Doors open at 7:00.
- ◆ **Panoramic Picture is Friday, October 4, 2019 at 7:30 am in the MHS gym**. A panoramic picture of the class will be taken. Cost is \$20.00 for a laminated picture with a choice of formal or funny, checks payable to Lifetouch. No shirts with individual letters may be worn for this picture. Any student who attempts to wear a shirt with an individual letter or letters will NOT be permitted to be in the picture. Any student who chooses to make gestures deemed inappropriate either by Medina High School or the photography studio, may be removed from the picture and/or disciplinary action may be taken. The administration reserves the right to take disciplinary action, including restitution for touching up the picture upon reviewing the panoramic picture.
- ◆ **October 16, 2019** is Test Day. Seniors do not test and have a choice of five options and must verify their participation in one of the below activities for attendance purposes. All senior students must return one of the following to the attendance office to provide verification of participation on the October 16 Test Day.
 - ◆ Confirmation of a college visit, such as a parking pass, verification letter from the university
 - ◆ Complete appropriate paperwork at the Medina County College and Career Fair, Oct 16, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at Medina County Fairgrounds/Community Center.
 - ◆ Confirmation of a career shadowing, such as a letter from the business shadowed.
 - ◆ ASVAB testing at MHS beginning at 7:30 a.m. Students must be pre-registered—See your counselor.
 - ◆ Completion of the Attendance Form found on Blackboard, MHS Counseling organization. The parent signature verifies the student was working on college applications.
- ◆ All seniors, with their medinabees login and password, are required to fill out the **Diploma Name Verification/Commencement Information** on-line form. The information being requested is their first, middle, and last names in addition to indicating if they **intend or do not intend** to participate in the graduation ceremony in May. The form is available on Blackboard in the Class of 2020

organization. Please note diplomas are printed with the student's legal name as it appears on his/her birth certificate. The due date is **January 6, 2020**.

- ◆ The **Senior Scholarship Applications** will be available on Blackboard in the MHS Counseling Organization from February 1 thru February 24, 2020. These on-line forms include many local scholarships. Scholarship opportunities are also updated throughout the year on Blackboard, under MHS Counseling.
- ◆ **Commencement Speakers** - The Application for Commencement Speakers is available on Blackboard in the Class of 2020 Organization and on the high school website at www.medinabees.org. Two seniors will be selected to speak at commencement - one who will make the opening remarks and one who will address the class during the ceremony. The **deadline for this application is 2:00 pm, Thursday, April 9, 2020**. *No late applications will be accepted.* Please turn applications into the HUB. Auditions will be held the week of April 13.
- ◆ **Favorite Teacher Letters** - Seniors may write letters recognizing a teacher, administrator or support staff member who has made an impact on their high school career. A cover sheet with the directions can be found on Blackboard in the Class of 2020 Organization and the high school website at www.medinabees.org. Students will have the opportunity to read their letter via videotaping on the morning announcements. A framed copy will be given to the teacher. Please make sure the copy being submitted is not folded and is ready for framing. **These letters are to be submitted by 2:00 pm, Thursday, April 9, 2020**. *No late submissions will be accepted.* Please turn letters into the HUB.
- ◆ **Grades/Credits** - If you have any questions or concerns about your student's progress these final semesters, please do not hesitate to contact his/her individual teacher and/or school counselor. Parents are strongly encouraged to closely monitor your student's progress using Blackboard especially in the senior required courses such as Math and Language Arts. These courses must be passed for a student to graduate from Medina High School.
- ◆ **Transcripts** - Beginning May 1st, all seniors are required to fill out a **Senior Census Form** which can be found on Blackboard in the Class of 2020 Organization. The "Senior Census Form" will generate their final transcript to be sent to schools, colleges and universities. **The final transcript will not be sent if there are any outstanding fees/fines or obligations.** The Senior Census Form will provide Scholarship Awards information to our Awards Committee. It is important every graduating senior fill out this form. Information regarding ordering transcripts can be found on Blackboard, under MHS Counseling and under the Class of 2020 organizations.
- ◆ **Attendance** -The Attendance Guidelines states 10 days is the maximum days a student is allowed to be absent from class during a semester. Class credit may be withheld due to excessive absences.
- ◆ **"Skip Day"** - Medina High School does not recognize or approve of any kind of senior "Skip Day." We encourage all students to be in attendance on all required days leading up to graduation. Students will be held accountable to the Attendance Policy.
- ◆ **"Senior Moment" or "Momentary Lapse of Good Judgment"** - **Medina High School will not tolerate any type of senior prank.** Students have been informed if they come on to school property during times in which they are not scheduled to be here, they will be held accountable. This may include involvement of police and formal charges being filed. Students will be held accountable for any type of disruption up to and including Commencement.
- ◆ **Caps & Gowns** - Early in May, caps and gowns will be handed out at the HUB. ***Eight graduation tickets will be inside the cap and gown packet.*** Seniors can pick up their cap and gown packets only if all school fees and fines are paid. If a cap and gown order has not been placed by the week of April 20, please call Jostens at 330-722-0131. There will be announcements made on the Morning Announcements when packets are ready for pickup.

- ◆ **Seating/Tickets for Commencement** - Each graduate will receive a total of eight tickets. *Tickets will be inside the cap and gown packet*. If you need more tickets, please remember to check with friends/neighbors for additional tickets. Starting May 11, if additional tickets are still needed, seniors may request two additional tickets at the HUB. For questions regarding Handicap seating, please contact the James A Rhodes Arena directly at 330-972-7310.
- ◆ **Payment of Fees and Fines** - Seniors must have all fees, fines, books, and financial obligations paid no later than 2:30 p.m. on Monday, May 11, 2020. Students are encouraged to pay these fees in advance. Any senior student having any outstanding obligations after May 11 will not receive a diploma at the conclusion of Commencement.
- ◆ **Senior Sunset** is Thursday, May 14, 2020, 7:00 pm to sunset, Ken Dukes Football Stadium.
- ◆ **Prom** is May 16, 2020. Prom information will be available on Blackboard under the Class of 2020. Prom will be held at Quaker Station, University of Akron.
- ◆ **2020 Senior Exam Schedule - May 11-15, 2020.** Senior exams will be given during the normal school day.
 - All seniors must report to classes daily on May 11-14
 - Exams are scheduled May 11-14 with make-ups on May 15
 - May 11-12: Math, Science, Physical Education, Business/Industrial Tech**
 - May 13-14: Language Arts, World Languages, Art, Social Studies**
 - May 15: Make-up exams, only seniors who have to make-up an exam should report to school during the assigned class period.
- ◆ **Senior Awards Ceremony** - Will take place on Tuesday, May 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. Invitation letters will be sent to those seniors who will be receiving an award. All are invited to attend.
- ◆ **Mandatory Commencement Practice for all MHS and MHS-MCCC students** - Practice will be held on **Thursday, May 21** in the MHS gymnasium. This practice is **MANDATORY**. Breakfast will be served from **7:45 to 8:15 a.m.** on the gym deck. Check in will begin at **8:00 a.m.** Cap and gowns are not needed. Attendance will be taken. Mr. Brenner will give general instructions and practice will begin promptly at **8:15 a.m.** Seniors not attending this mandatory practice will forfeit their opportunity to participate in Commencement.
- ◆ **Baccalaureate** - Baccalaureate is students led and will be held on Thursday, **May 21 at 7:00 p.m.** at Holy Martyrs, 3100 Weymouth Road, Medina. Students need to report by 6:30 p.m. Please bring your cap and gown. No tickets necessary. All are welcome.
- ◆ **Commencement** - Will be held on **Saturday, May 23, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.** at James A. Rhodes Arena, The University of Akron, for all MHS and MHS-MCCC seniors.
- ◆ **Proper Dress for Graduation Day** - Gentlemen should wear a shirt and tie along with dress pants and dress shoes. Ladies should wear a dress or a blouse and skirt/slacks. To minimize the possibility of falling when going up and down stairs, we strongly discourage the wearing of high heels. Under no circumstances should blue jeans, tennis shoes, T-shirts or shorts be worn during the graduation ceremony. Also, no messages are permitted to be worn on the top of the caps. Any student improperly dressed will not be permitted to participate in Commencement.
- ◆ **Spectator Conduct at Commencement** - All families want to hear their child's name announced at graduation. Out of respect for our graduates and families, we request guests refrain from excessive cheering and the use of noise makers during the ceremony. We would like to remind everyone air horns or other noise making devices are not permitted in the arena and will be confiscated by the University of Akron police. Cell phones should be set to silent/vibrate mode. Your cooperation is

greatly appreciated by all attending.

- ◆ **Photography at Commencement** - Parents may take photographs during Commencement from the area where they are sitting. There will be professional photographers from Lifetouch taking pictures of each graduating senior as he/she receives his/her diploma. Ordering information will be posted on the MHS website in May. Parents and/or spectators will not be permitted down in front where diplomas are being presented.
- ◆ **Videotapes** - Feel free to make your own videos from where you are seated. We ask no one videotape from the upper railing in such a way taping will block the view of people who are seated. As in the past, Channel 36 will be covering the Commencement ceremony and you can record the ceremony from the re-broadcasts. A DVD order form will be included in the diploma packet each graduate receives after the ceremony. The cost of the DVD is \$20.
- ◆ **Directions to the JAR Arena** - Take Rt. 18 East to I-77 South (Montrose-Fairlawn). Merge onto I-77 South toward Massillon which becomes I-77 South/I-76 East. Merge onto OH-8N via Exit 23B on the LEFT toward Cuyahoga Falls. Take the ramp toward OH-18 Carroll St/Buchtel Ave/Akron University. Stay straight to go onto Fountain Street. Turn left onto Carroll Street. The following parking lots are in close proximity to the JAR Arena: Lot 1 Parking Deck (Right on Carroll St., then left into parking deck), Lot 2 (off of Carroll St.), Lots 5 and 13 (take right on Spicer St.) and Lots 8 and 10 (take left on Spicer St. behind the Ocask Natatorium). Lot 57, in front of the JAR Arena, will be reserved for administration and guests as well as handicapped unloading. Handicapped parking is available in Lot 2 (adjacent to the JAR Arena) and Lot 11 (behind Spicer Hall). More information at: <https://gozips.com/sports/2017/5/25/gameday-mbb-parking-and-directions.aspx?id=66>
- ◆ **Arrival Time on Graduation Day** - Graduates are required to be in the "SENIOR-ONLY" staging area to the rear of the JAR Arena by **12:15 p.m.** At this time, the final attendance will be taken and seniors will be lined up and must remain in their lines. A reminder to parents and guests, entrance into JAR Arena will be by ticket only. *Please also note the doors to the JAR do not open for parents and guests until 12:00 noon—NO EXCEPTIONS.*
- ◆ **Diploma Packet Pick-Up** - There is a designated area the JAR Arena to pick up your diploma and other items after Commencement. *A 145th MHS Commencement Program is included in the packet.* Those not participating in the ceremony can pick up their packets at the Hub beginning on Tuesday, May 26th.
- ◆ **Google Accounts** - The Class of 2020 Google accounts (@medinabees.org) will remain active through the summer. After summer, your Google account may be disabled and all data will be lost. Please take time to transfer, forward, or save emails and documents you may need from this account. Deleted data cannot be retrieved.