

METUCHEN HIGH SCHOOL
November 7, 2011



TO: All Parents/Guardians

From: Bruce J. Peragallo
The Office of the Principal

Project Graduation – An Evening On The Town, Saturday, November 19, 2011

"Project Graduation", sponsored by The YMCA of Metuchen-Edison-Woodbridge-South Amboy, provides a safe environment for a safe celebration for graduating seniors the night of graduation. Come join us for "An Evening On The Town" at the Pines Manor in Edison, on Saturday, November 19, 2011 from 7:00 - 11:00 pm. Gourmet Dining, Music, Dancing, Door Prizes will be the highlights of the evening. Tickets for "An Evening On The Town" are just \$75 each. Tickets are limited, so order quickly.

Proceeds from the evening will help fund a drug and alcohol free graduation night activity. A 50/50 Raffle will also take place that night. 50/50 Raffle Tickets are on sale now for \$10.00 per ticket. For tickets, sponsorships and 50/50 raffle ticket information, please contact mhsprojgrad2012@yahoo.com.

American Education Week – Monday-Friday, November 14-18

Please note that American Education Week is scheduled in all the schools from Monday-Friday, November 14-18. Parents who would like to visit will need to register in guidance or the main office in advance. Also, don't forget that Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for November 15 and 17 of the same week. Due to Parent-Teacher Conferences, there will be a 1:00pm early dismissal on both Tuesday, November 15 and Thursday, November 17. By now, your child should be having his/her teachers complete the Request Form to schedule conference times.

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Early Dismissals, Delayed Openings – Letter From The Superintendent

It is seldom that a school year passes without inclement weather or some other circumstance causing the need for adjustment of the school schedule. In these cases as well, safety is a prime consideration when making the decision to modify the schedule. Please see the attached letter from Mrs. Sinatra for additional information. The letter as well as a document titled How The Decision To Close School Is Made can be found on the district website under Inclement Weather. A link to the District Website can also be found on the high school website.

Inclement Weather Days – An Appeal to Parents/Guardians

On days when school is in session and the weather becomes somewhat inclement, please refrain from calling the office to release your children prior to dismissal. We are asking for your cooperation in this area in an effort to discourage students from calling home because “everyone is leaving.” The above is not true and regular classes are taught until the end of the day. If you truly believe that your child should have an early dismissal because of the weather conditions, please come to the Main Office and request his/her release. In the event of an early dismissal due to weather, it will be posted on the website and a Honeywell Alert will be sent to you as well.

Fall Season Athletic Awards – Tuesday, November 22, 2011

The Athletic Department and its director John Cathcart will sponsor an awards night for fall sports on Tuesday, November 22. The program will be held in the gymnasium and start at 7:00pm. Athletic awards will be presented to those students who participated in cheerleading, cross-country, field hockey, football, soccer, and tennis.

Guidance

****Financial Aid 101 – Tuesday, November 29, 2011**

Students and families are invited to Financial Aid 101 on **Tuesday, November 29, 2011** at 7 pm in the high school cafeteria. This workshop provides a complete overview of the financial aid process and what students should expect when applying for financial aid for college. It describes the types and sources of student aid, how to apply for a pin number and financial aid using a FAFSA. The workshop also covers college costs and provides a detailed description of NJ aid programs. Last, it promotes HESAA services and web sites in order to conduct private scholarship searches. Our guest speaker, Ms. Danette Edwards, is the Assistant Director of Public Outreach – NJ Higher Education Student Assistance Authority. Seniors are strongly encouraged to attend, but students at any level who are interested in learning about the financial aid process are invited.

Genesis Parent Module

In an effort to reduce costs and become a "green" district, beginning with the 2011-2012 school year we will no longer be mailing interims or report cards. These can be accessed in our Genesis Parent Module. If you do not already have a parent account in genesis, please send an email to metuchendata@metboe.k12.nj.us with your name, and your child's name and grade. The email you send the request from will be your login. If you have any questions, please call the guidance office at 732-321-8750.

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Fall Theater Production – Thursday – Saturday, December 1-3, 2011

The Metuchen High School Footlighters' fall production is *There Must be Some Way Out of Here* – an evening of plays and songs about being a teenager and growing up. Plays such as *13 Ways to Screw up Your College Interview* and songs from shows including *A Chorus Line*, *American Idiot*, and *Spring Awakening*, portray all the humor, heartache, confusion and fun that define the teenage years. Performances are Thursday, December 1, Friday, December 2, and Saturday, December 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Tickets are \$6.00 in advance at the high school (also children and senior citizens), and \$8.00 at the door. ...*Out of Here* is rated PG for some adult language and references

College Planning Night – December 8, 2011

On Thursday, December 8th The Guidance Department is pleased to host our annual College Planning Night for college-bound students and their families. Juniors are encouraged to attend, but all students and families are welcome.

Admissions representatives from the University of Delaware, Ramapo College of New Jersey, and George Washington University will join the high school counselors to discuss how colleges select applicants, finding the school that is the best “fit”, and the nuances of the application process, among other topics. Our panelists will also field questions, if time permits. The presentation will begin at 7 pm in the high school cafeteria.

ACT – Saturday, December 10, 2011 and April 14, 2012

Metuchen High School has been designated as an ACT testing site. The ACT assesses high school students' general education development, as well as their ability to complete college-level work. The test is comprised of four sections: English, Mathematics, Reading and Science, as well as an optional Writing section that should be taken. The ACT is accepted by all colleges and universities and is used in addition to, or in lieu of the SAT exam for college admission. MHS will be offering the test on **December 10th, 2011** (registration deadline: **November 4th**), and **April 14th, 2012** (registration deadline: **March 9, 2012**). Registration for the exam can be found at www.actstudent.org. Please contact your child's guidance counselor with any additional questions.

Yearbook

All students will be receiving mail from Jostens, the yearbook company, with instructions on ordering the yearbook. A payment plan will be available through Jostens.

Seniors - Please help the Blue Letter staff create this year's yearbook with your photos. Please see the attached sheet for additional information and school passcode.

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Students Driving To School With A Graduated Drivers License (GDL)

This is a reminder to all Parents of students who have a Graduated Drivers License (GDL) - New Jersey State law mandates that only **one additional passenger** is allowed to be in the car unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. If a student is found to be in violation of this law, administration reserves the right to revoke student's parking privileges. Additionally, all student drivers under the age of 18, need to have the reflectorized decal (red) on each license plate. The Metuchen Police Department will be looking to enforce this law immediately. Please see attached letter.

Metuchen PT Council Presents Comedy Night – Friday, February 24, 2012

Save the date!!! Comedy Night will be held on Friday, February 24, 2012 at 8:00pm. Please see flyer attached for additional information.

Save The Date!!!

A celebration of leadership to honor Superintendent, Mrs. Terri Sinatra, will be held on Sunday, December 4, 2011. Please see flyer for additional information.

World Language Department – Internet Translators

The World Language Department at Metuchen High School recognizes the Internet as a resource and reference for learning the meaning of words and exploring their roots in other languages. Language acquisition is a process in which higher order thinking skills are developed through study and practice. Utilizing a translator may impede a student's progress in learning a world language and seriously compromise his or her ability to think. Therefore, the World Language Department strongly advises all students to be aware of negative consequences that may result from the misuse of internet translators.

Reminder #1-The PTO will hold its next meeting on Monday, November 7. The meeting will take place in the Library/Media Center and start at 7:30pm. The Guest Speaker will be the high school's Student Assistant Counselor, Judi Cheung, who will be speaking about the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying policy.

Reminder #2-The first marking cycle will end on Friday, November 4. Be advised that report cards will be accessible through the Genesis Parent Module on Wednesday, November 9 around noon time.

Reminder #3-All schools in the Metuchen School District will be closed on Tuesday, November 8 for Election Day. School will also be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 10 and 11 for the NJEA Convention.

Reminder #4-MHS Project Graduation 2011 Fundraiser – An Evening on the Town is Saturday, November 19 at the Pines Manor located in Edison.



BOROUGH OF METUCHEN MIDDLESEX COUNTY

500 MAIN STREET, METUCHEN, NEW JERSEY 08840

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

Telephone: (732) 632-8500

Fax: (732) 632-8573

November 4, 2011

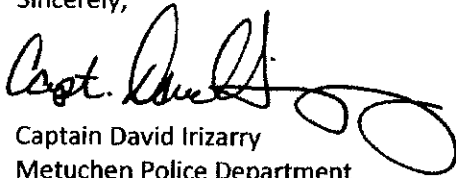
Dear Parents:

It has come to the attention of the Metuchen Police Department that there is some confusion with the NJ Provisional Drivers License. ALL PARENTS, WHOSE child is driving or will be driving in the near future, should become familiar with the Graduated Drivers License regulations. You can find these regulations on the internet at the following website:

<http://www.nj.gov/mvc/Licenses/FirstTime.htm>

Please note that the Metuchen Police Department will be looking to enforce this law immediately.

Sincerely,



Captain David Irizarry
Metuchen Police Department

Event Supporters

All sponsorships are 100% tax deductible. Your generous support will be publicized in the event program.

- Diamond \$5,000
- Ruby \$3,000
- Platinum \$1,000
- Gold \$ 500
- Silver \$ 250
- Bronze \$ 100
- Other \$ _____

In the program my sponsorship listing should read:

- I prefer to remain anonymous

Raffle Tickets

50/50 Cash Raffle

(\$12,500 in cash prizes, if all tickets are sold)

I would like to purchase _____ raffle tickets at \$10 each. Winner need not to be present at drawing. Drawing will take place on the night of the event. Tickets will be mailed to you.

Name & Address:

Metuchen High School Project Graduation
400 Grove Ave.
Metuchen, NJ 08840

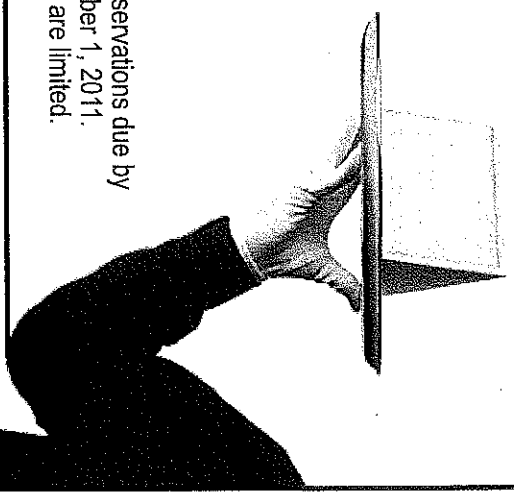
Tenth Annual
Metuchen High School
Project Graduation

*An Evening
On The Town*
at The Pines Manor



*Saturday
November 19, 2011
7:00-11:00pm*

Sponsored by
The YMCA of
Metuchen-Edison-Woodbridge-South Amboy



Paid reservations due by
November 1, 2011.
Tickets are limited.

Please join us for an evening benefiting
the students of classes 2012,
2013, 2014 and 2015

Dear Friends,

Please join us at the 10th annual Metuchen High School Project Graduation Event sponsored by the YMCA of Metuchen-Edison-Woodbridge-South Amboy. The evening will take place at The Pines Manor in Edison, NJ. Your reservation includes gourmet dining, music, dancing and door prizes. A small silent auction will also be provided. The proceeds from the evening will help fund a drug and alcohol free graduation night activity for the class of 2012 and subsequent years.

Tickets are limited, so reserve early. Invite your friends, colleagues and family members for a memorable evening.

Most Sincerely,

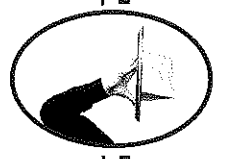
The Project Graduation Parent Committee 2012

- Ila Wernik-Fortuna - Chairperson
- Laurene Hartman - Sponsor Chairperson
- Suzanne Lagay-Kay - Chaperone Chairperson
- Lisa Lussier - Raffle Chairperson
- Ann Murphy - Publicity Chairperson
- Vivian Petrakakos - Pines Manor Chairperson
- Brenda Redshaw - Treasurer
- Pam Roberts - Country Fair Chairperson
- Kristine Walters & Chris Laceskey- Student Liaisons

For more information contact:

mhsprojgrad2012@yahoo.com
Ila Wernik-Fortuna (732) 767-0621 or
Brenda Redshaw (732) 549-2227

Event Menu



Salad

Caesar, Greek, Assorted Greens

Pattens

Grilled Marinated Vegetables,
Seafood Salad, Fresh Mozzarella
Cheese with Tomato and Basil,
Assorted Cheese & Crackers

Pasta

Penne with Vodka Sauce

Copper Chafing Dishes

Roasted Breast of Chicken
Sliced Sirloin Steak
Grilled Medallions of Salmon
Eggplant Rollatini

Accompanied by
Fresh Seasonal Vegetables
Rosemary Gold Potatoes

Desert

Mini Assorted Pastries
Seasonal Fresh Fruit
Freshly Brewed Coffee & Tea
Unlimited Soda - Cash Bar

Please return this form and payment by
November 1, 2011

Make checks payable to: Project Graduation

Mail to: Project Graduation
Metuchen High School
400 Grove Avenue
Metuchen, NJ 08840

Reservations

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone (Day): _____

Email: _____

Reserve _____ seats at \$75 per person
(Open seating. I understand the tax-deductible
amount is \$25 per reservation)

Reserve a table for 10
If you are attending with a group and you would like
to guarantee seating together, you can reserve a
table for 10. Please provide your group name below:

If You Cannot Attend

I regret that I can not attend, but enclosed
is a contribution of \$ _____ to support
Project Graduation.

Your contribution is 100% tax deductible.



10th Annual
Metuchen High School



**PROJECT
GRADUATION**
Class of 2012

An Evening On The Town

Pines Manor ~ Edison, NJ

**Proceeds from the evening will help fund a drug-free,
alcohol-free graduation night activity.**

Saturday, November 19, 2011

7:00 - 11:00 pm

- * *Gourmet Dining*
- * *Music*
- * *Dancing*
- * *Door Prizes*
- * *50/50 Raffle*

Only \$75 per person

**For tickets, sponsorships and 50/50 raffle information, please contact
mhsprojgrad2012@yahoo.com or call Ila Wernik-Fortuna 732-767-0621.**

Paid Reservations due by November 1, 2011. Tickets are limited.

Sponsored by The YMCA of Metuchen-Edison-Woodbridge-South Amboy



METUCHEN BOARD OF EDUCATION

Administrative Offices
16 Simpson Place
Metuchen, New Jersey 08840-1886

Theresa J. Pollifrone-Sinatra
Superintendent of Schools
tsinatra@metboe.k12.nj.us

Phone: (732) 321-8700
Ext. 1016
Fax: (732) 321-6567

November 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff Members:

In the Metuchen School District, the safety of students and staff members is of the highest priority. We are committed to doing everything we can to guarantee it. It is important for students to be alert and careful while traveling to or from school and school events or while playing out of doors, especially during the fall and winter months when there are fewer daylight hours and weather conditions can create sudden hazards. Students should be reminded to avoid strangers, and to immediately report to an authority any unusual, suspicious incident or, indeed, any event that makes them uncomfortable. Careful, cautious, and responsible behavior is essential in school, at home, and in public.

EMERGENCY CHANGES IN SCHEDULE

It is seldom that a school year passes without inclement weather or some other circumstance causing the need for adjustment of the school schedule. In these cases as well, safety is a prime consideration when making the decision to modify the schedule. Sometimes school is cancelled for the day or subject to a "delayed opening", usually because of the weather. In addition, although less frequently, there may be an "early dismissal" on a day when, while school is in session, weather conditions or other situations develop or threaten in a way that suggests that traveling home at the regularly scheduled time would create a safety hazard. In the event that school is cancelled or closed early, all after school activities including athletic events scheduled for that day are also cancelled.

Should the weather appear threatening at any time, the best way to find out about weather related delays or closings or early dismissals is by **calling the Board of Education at 732-321-8700**. Our telephone system allows us to record emergency information that can be heard immediately after the initial greeting. Information on school closings or delayed openings is recorded as soon as a decision is made. On days when school is delayed or cancelled, the information will be available no later than 6:30 a.m. We also use our website www.metuchenschools.org as a means of getting information to the public. We continue to give information about cancellations, delayed openings and early dismissals to radio stations WCTC (1450 AM) and WMGQ (98.3 FM). On air announcements will be made only on WCTC (1450 AM). Information will be available on the websites of both stations www.wctcam.com or www.magic983.com.

In addition, the district subscribes to the Honeywell Instant® Alert System. This system alerts you to school closings and other school-related information. Every parent in the district who enrolls can customize the types of messages received and the ways they are received by registering at the Honeywell Instant Alert® link on the home page of the district website (www.metuchenschools.org).

DELAYED OPENING OF SCHOOL / "DELAYED OPENINGS" / CANCELLATION

Sometimes, delaying the starting time of the school day is best for the safety and convenience of students, parents, and staff members. In such cases, a decision to delay the opening of school will be made. Information will be posted on our telephone line, our website and called in to WCTC 1450 AM, and WMGQ, NJ 98.3 FM, but will be announced only on WCTC. Please remember that a "delayed opening" can change to a closing if the weather gets worse. Calling the main Board of Education telephone number at 732-321-8700, accessing the district website (www.metuchenschools.org), ongoing monitoring of the radio

websites will ensure that you have up-to-date information, or having your current profile on the Honeywell Instant Alert® System.

<u>School</u>	<u>Regular Opening</u>	<u>Delayed Opening</u>	<u>Dismiss</u>
Edgar	8:00 a.m.	9:35 a.m.	2:31 p.m.
MHS	8:30 a.m.	9:50 a.m.	2:45 p.m.
Campbell	8:30 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	2:55 p.m.
Moss			
AM Kindergarten	8:45 a.m.	10:05 a.m.	11:22 a.m.
PM Kindergarten	12:12 p.m.	1:04 p.m.	2:49 p.m.
ELC/AM MIPP	8:53 a.m.	10:05 – 11:50 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
ELC/PM MIPP	11:53 a.m.	12:40 – 2:15 p.m.	2:00 p.m.

EARLY CLOSING OF SCHOOL / EARLY DISMISSAL

If severe weather conditions or an emergency situation indicate that schools should be closed before the end of the regular school day, a decision to close school early or to have an early dismissal will be made as soon as possible. This information will be available on the main telephone number of the Board of Education at 732-321-8700 and on the district website, www.metuchenschools.org. WCTC and WMGQ will be informed and the early closing/early dismissal will be announced on WCTC and posted on the websites of WCTC and WMGQ. A Honeywell Instant Alert® will also be issued. Please remember that school closing lists are updated regularly, so keep checking. Once a decision to close early has been made, no further changes will be made for that day. Depending on the time when the schools close, the day may have to be made up at a later date.

Early Dismissal Procedures

Although it is impossible to have an early dismissal time schedule that would apply to any and all situations, the following guidelines may be helpful:

1. The schools will close in their regular opening order, i.e. Edgar, MHS, Campbell, and Moss. There may be delays depending on weather conditions.
2. Since an early dismissal is possible at any time, it is important that your child's emergency contact should be someone who is at home or available during the time of an early dismissal.
3. If your child is in grades K – 4, you will receive information about an emergency phone chain directly from the school's PTO.
4. Remember that whenever an early dismissal is called because of the weather, the afternoon Kindergarten session is cancelled.

Please keep this information available for reference. If you have any questions about any of the information, please call your school principal.

Sincerely,

Theresa J. Pollifrone-Sinatra

Theresa J. Pollifrone-Sinatra
Superintendent

mr

You are invited to attend

A Celebration of Leadership to Honor Superintendent

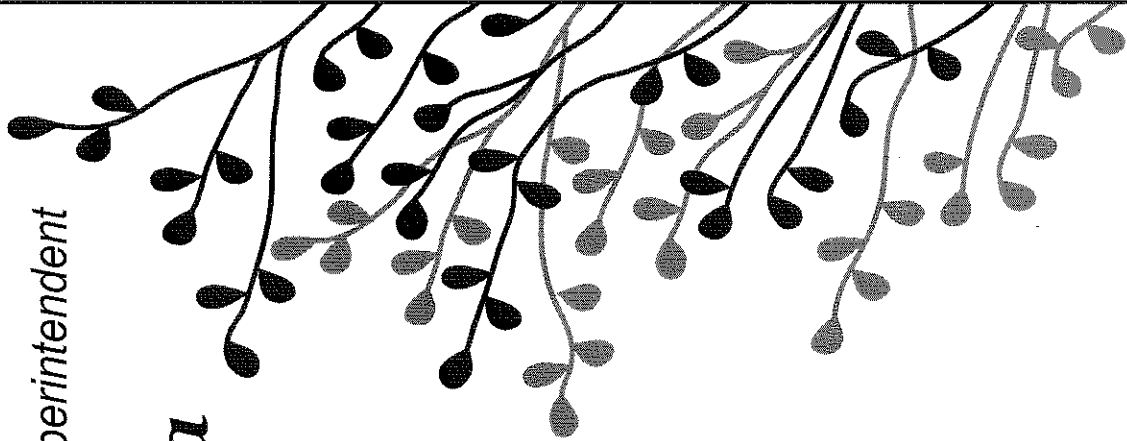
Mrs. Terri Sinatra

12•04•11

Honorary Luncheon

12 to 4:00pm

The Woodbridge Hilton



Please return this form and payment by
November 18, 2011

Make checks payable to: Edgar Sunshine

Mail to: Michael Harvier
Metuchen Public Schools
16 Simpson Place
Metuchen, NJ 08840

Reservations

Name: _____

Phone (Day): _____

Email: _____

Reserve _____ adult seat(s) at \$40 per person
The adult luncheon menu includes a choice of
entree. (You will make your choice of entree via
e-mail upon receipt of your reservation).

Reserve _____ student seat(s) at \$15 per person
The Student Menu includes chicken nuggets
and french fries.

Unable to Attend

Name: _____

I regret that I can not attend, but I have
enclosed a \$10.00 gift donation

All students, faculty and members of the Metuchen community are invited to attend