

METUCHEN HIGH SCHOOL
Mailing to All Parents/Guardians
November 19, 2008

From the Office of the Principal
John R. Novak

Fall Season Athletic Awards – Tuesday, December 2

The Athletic Department and its director John Cathcart will sponsor an awards night for fall sports on Tuesday, December 2. The program will be held in the gymnasium and start at 7:00 p.m. Athletic awards will be presented to those students who participated in dance team/cheerleading, cross-country, field hockey, football, soccer, and tennis

Winter Holiday Concert – Sunday, December 14

The Music Department invites all parents/guardians, students, and friends of MHS to enjoy an afternoon of seasonal music at the annual Winter Holiday Concert. The program will start at 2:00 p.m. Instrumental and choral performances will be presented by the MHS orchestra, stage band, concert choir, and choral club.

Senior Athletes – NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse

Senior athletes who intend to play college sports at NCAA Division I or II institutions must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse is the agency of the NCAA that certifies the academic eligibility of all student-athletes who will be college freshmen in 2009-10. Parents of seniors whose children might participate in Division I or II college athletics should request the NCAA Clearinghouse information packet from the Guidance Department. Please note that the required online registration procedures include a \$30 fee (NCAA Clearinghouse) to process the Student Release Form and a \$6.50 fee (SAT Program) to have ETS send official test scores to the NCAA. Specific questions can be directed to athletic liaison counselor Sandra DeLuca (732-321-8750); otherwise, you can log on to the NCAA Clearinghouse website at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net to complete the application.

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Student Attendance – A Reminder

Please review the below-listed student attendance procedures and information:

- Call the Main Office (732-321-8744), the Attendance Office (x8500), or the Nurse's Office (x8747) on the morning of the absence. If a phone call is not received, your child's absence will be considered "unexcused" and he/she will be considered truant. An excused absence is defined as illness/injury, religious holidays as designated by the state, death in the family, extreme emergencies, quarantine, or authorization by school officials (court appearances, driving test, college visits, etc.). Please note that documentation may be required.
- Call any of the above numbers when your child is tardy to school. Running late and/or oversleeping are not considered excused tardies.
- Call any of the above numbers or submit a written note one day in advance to request an early dismissal. The office staff will have the early dismissal pass for your child when he/she is ready to leave the building.

If there are ongoing health problems or personal matters that are causing frequent absences or tardies, please contact vice principal Bruce Peragallo, your child's guidance counselor, or the nurse to discuss the matter.

Student Outreach Club

For your information, the Student Outreach Club is an active organization designed to give all students a place where they can meet new people and make new friends. The club provides a positive atmosphere in which regular education students and special education students can make connections and bond with each other. The club meets throughout the year, goes on trips, and attends school functions. Student Outreach is always seeking new members and encourages anyone with an interest to join. The faculty advisor is Randi Grossfeld.

Reminder #1—Guidance Department Financial Aid Workshop—Wednesday, December 3, in the **Cafeteria** at 7:00 p.m.

Reminder #2—the next delayed opening for Middle States is Wednesday, December 10.

Reminder #3—the next PTO Meeting is scheduled for Monday evening, January 5. All parents/guardians are invited to attend. The meeting will take place in the MHS Library and begin at 7:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be vice principal Bruce Peragallo.