



# MONTGOMERY HIGH SCHOOL

1016 ROUTE 601 - SKILLMAN, NJ 08558 - 609-466-7602 - FAX 609-466-0243

PAUL J. POPADIUK  
PRINCIPAL

August 9, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

It is hard to believe that summer is coming to an end and the opening of school is just around the corner. I hope that you and your family have enjoyed the summer and are excited about the prospect of returning to school. The faculty and I are anticipating that all of our students will have an outstanding year filled with the many opportunities available at Montgomery High School.

I am extremely excited about the many new adventures that the 2019-2020 year is going to bring. Students and faculty will be engaged in year eight of our block schedule and unit lunch (Bell Schedule attached). After-school sports and band will once again be starting at 2:50 pm, in order to give students an opportunity to attend extra-help and get involved with other co-curricular clubs and activities. Teachers meet daily in their Collaborative Learning Teams to create common assessments, discuss student progress, plan innovative lessons and provide the very best instruction to your children. We are excited to continue year two of semester grading, which should help relieve some of the November and April end of marking period stressors that students have previously experienced.

The first day of school, Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, will be a full session day (7:20 am – 2:07 pm) and lunch will be served. Students should report directly to their A Day Block 1 class on September 5<sup>th</sup>. Schedules will become viewable on Parent Resources on August 23<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm, pending the completion of all required digital forms. As we did last year, many of these forms that used to be distributed on the first day of school will be collected online via our Genesis - Parent Access system. These forms are accessible only to you, and are securely stored in our student information database. To complete this process, please log onto Genesis - Parent Access and complete the required forms. You will have Genesis Parent Access to the following areas: Contacts, Forms, and Documents until these items are completed. As soon as you complete the forms, your child's schedule and class assignment will become immediately accessible to you. If you are having trouble with your Genesis/Parent Resource login, please contact Jaime Velez at [jvelez@mtsd.us](mailto:jvelez@mtsd.us).

Freshman Orientation will be held on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30 to 2:30 pm. Parents will be responsible for transportation to and from the program. Students should report to the Montgomery Performing Arts Center using the main entrance of the school. As part of the presentation, freshmen will be able to acquaint themselves with the layout of the high school, block scheduling, unit lunch, hear from members of the high school administration, coaches, and advisors, and meet with peer leaders. Additionally, freshmen pictures will be taken at this time.

I am hoping that all freshmen can attend this program. All attending freshmen should bring a copy of their class schedule to use during their building tour.

The MHS PTSA will be assisting with the Freshman Orientation on August 28th. While students attend the Co-curricular and Club Fair in the Commons, the PTSA will be available to assist parents in the lobby from 2:00- 3:00 pm. They will be happy to answer any questions you may have about PTSA membership, volunteer opportunities, or any other high school related issues you may have.

Student photos for grades 10 and 11 will be held on September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> during your student's study hall block. An e-blast went out last week containing the photo form to be completed and sent in with your student on picture day. This information is also located on the High School web page.

For students who are new to Montgomery Township, we will be hosting a "Welcome to MHS Luncheon" on Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm. This program will be held in the MHS Media Center. The program will include lunch, student-parent Q&A session, peer leader partnering and a tour of the building. Parents are also invited to attend.

Please take a moment to review the upcoming events and news that follow this letter.

Thank you and enjoy the final days of summer.

Respectfully,

Paul J. Popadiuk  
Principal

# MONTGOMERY HIGH SCHOOL BACK-TO-SCHOOL INFORMATION

## 1. Academic Information:

For academic information concerning your child, call the Guidance Office at 609-466-7602, ext. 6178, Monday through Friday between 7:20 am. and 3:30 pm. If you have any specific concerns regarding classroom instruction and student progress, please contact your child's teacher first to resolve the issue. If it is not resolved, please contact the subject area supervisor. If the issue is still not resolved after speaking with the teacher and supervisor, please contact the principal. For any other concerns or questions, please contact the Main Office: 609-466-7602 or the District Message/Attendance Line: 609-466-7610.

## 2. Marking Period/Semester Dates:

Marking Period	End of Marking Period	Grades Posted on Parent Resources
First Semester	January 24, 2020	February 3, 2020
Second Semester	June 11, 2020	June 25, 2020

## 3. Back-to-School Night:

Back to School Night (Open House) will be on **Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 pm. You will be able to follow an abbreviated schedule of your child's classes. At this time, teachers will discuss important information, such as course requirements and performance expectations.

## 4. Parent Resources:

Parents are able to monitor their child's progress in school via the district website, [www.mtsd.k12.nj.us](http://www.mtsd.k12.nj.us). You will be able to view your child's performance 7 days per week, 24 hours per day, via the [ParentResources](#) link in the "Headlines" section of the page.

[ParentResources](#) allows parents to view upcoming assignments, grades, and their child's schedule of classes. Teachers will be posting all assignments on this site. We will also be posting all grading and report card information via this system.

If you do not have computer access, or if you wish to have Progress Reports and Report Cards mailed to your address, please contact my secretary, Mrs. Lori Matthews, at (609) 466-7602 Ext. 6157. The District has a goal to have 100% of parent/guardian households reachable via email for survey and eblast purposes. Please Contact Jaime Velez at [jvelez@mtsd.us](mailto:jvelez@mtsd.us) to sign up! You can then receive important district news and information via email and phone. You must have a computer that can access the Internet, an e-mail address, and a [ParentResources](#) account. If you do not have an account, click on the [ParentResources](#) link on the district homepage.

## 5. Attendance Reminders:

To eliminate the potential of having a missing child, it is important that parents / guardians communicate as quickly as possible about a student who is absent. Therefore, parents / guardians should place the absence in Parent Resources online, in advance, or call the District Message / Attendance Line 24-hours a day at 609-466-7610. This communication will assist us in determining if the student is safe. The school will attempt to reach parents whose children are unaccounted for during the course of the school day.

## 6. Senior Class Trip – March 3 to March 7, 2020. I have enclosed a copy of the form that you will need to complete and return with your deposit.

## **7. Communicating with MHS Faculty and Administration**

In an effort to define expectations for healthy communication to take place between members of the high school community and to foster positive relationships, the school administration has established the following guidelines:

1. Teachers and administrators will make every effort possible to return phone calls and reply to e-mails within 24 hours. Of course, this excludes weekends and holidays.
2. If you do not receive a response, please call the high school and ask to speak to that individual's immediate supervisor for assistance.

**8. Late Buses-** Late buses are offered to students **Tuesday-Thursday at 4:45 pm.**

## **9. Parent-Teacher-Student Association (PTSA):**

**PTSA Membership** forms are available online at <http://www.mtsd.k12.nj.us/Page/10142>. We invite you to make a difference in our school by becoming a part of the PTSA. Your time and membership dollars allow us to sponsor events and activities that benefit all of the students, teachers, and parents at MHS. Your support helps us sponsor: Student Grants, Senior Scholarships, Student Activities such as Socials, Cougar Recognition/Honor Roll, Student Ice Cream Social, Class activities, Teacher Grants, School Beautification Projects, Staff Appreciation Luncheons, Bus Driver Appreciation, Parent Programs, weekly E-News, hospitality for various school events, and so much more!

For more information about the PTSA, please visit the MHS website (<http://www.mtsd.k12.nj.us/Page/591>) and click on the PTSA tab. If you have questions about what we do or would like to volunteer, please email PTSA President: Sharon Howard, [cunyhoward@hotmail.com](mailto:cunyhoward@hotmail.com)

**PTSA E-News:** PTSA sends out an informative weekly E-News that contains a calendar of events and the latest school and PTSA news. To be added to the mailing list, please send an email to [ptsa@mhs-ptsacom](mailto:ptsa@mhs-ptsacom).

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

All school events can be located on our website. Please go to [www.mtsd.k12.nj.us](http://www.mtsd.k12.nj.us) then select Montgomery High School. The calendar is available under "Upcoming Events" on the right hand side of the screen. The calendar is updated weekly.

Senior Class Trip to Florida  
**March 3<sup>rd</sup> -March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Class of 2020 Parents, Guardians, and Students:

The Class of 2020 is conducting the annual Senior Trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. The seniors will be leaving school on Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> and returning on Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup>. The first payment of \$500 is due by Friday September 27<sup>th</sup>. Checks should be made out to **MHS Class of 2020**. Please make sure the **student's name is noted on the check**. Please complete the form at the bottom of the page and return it, along with your check in an envelope, to Mr. Girvan. There will be two other payments due November 1<sup>st</sup> (\$500) and December 6<sup>th</sup> (Balance). The total cost will be **approx. \$1500**. The final balance will be posted for each student in October.

Below is some important information regarding the trip:

- Students will be chaperoned by MHS teachers, nurse and administrators.
- There will be 4 students per room, staying at Disney's All-Star Music Resorts.
- The trip includes a 5-Day Park Hopper pass for Epcot, Magic Kingdom, Animal Kingdom, Hollywood Studios, and one day at a water park.
- Students receive \$5.00 for breakfast and a meal coupon to use for either dinner or lunch. (They will be responsible for buying one meal a day).
- Students will travel by coach bus to the airport. Flight information will be provided at a later date.
- There will be a **mandatory** meeting in February for parents and students, explaining further details about the trip.
- Please refer to the Student Handbook, to review criteria for participating on the Senior Class Trip. Students will be required to meet attendance, discipline (no student may attend the trip if they are suspended during their senior year) and academic standards (no student may attend the trip if they are failing a course required for graduation) to be eligible. Students, who become ineligible for the trip after initial payments are made, **may not receive full reimbursement** and in some cases may receive **no reimbursement**.

Thank you,  
Mike Girvan, Class of 2020 Co-Advisor



-----  
Class of 2020 Senior Trip Deposit Agreement Form

**I have read the information regarding the Senior Trip criteria, and understand the school's reimbursement policy.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**(Student's First Name, Middle Name & Last Name -  
Please Print)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student's Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian's Name- Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian's Signature)

**Please make sure you write your Middle Name! If you don't have a middle name please write no middle name. The airline needs this info.  
Please detach and return this form, along with your check, to Mr. Girvan by September 27<sup>th</sup>.**

# 2019-2020 REGULAR BELL SCHEDULE

	A Day	B Day	Time
7:20 - 8:49 (HR)	Block A1	Block B1	84+ (5)
8:53- 10:17	Block A2	Block B2	84
10:21 - 11:11	Unit Lunch	Unit Lunch	50
11:15 - 12:39	Block A3	Block B3	84
12:43 - 2:07	Block A4	Block B4	84

## ALTERNATE BELL SCHEDULES

	Assembly	Delayed Opening (2 Hour Delay)	½ Day: Early Dismissal
<b>Block 1</b>	7:20 – 8:27 (HR)	9:20 – 10:19 (HR)	7:20 – 8:23
<b>Block 2</b>	8:31 – 9:38 (A) 9:42 – 10:49 (B)	10:23 – 11:17	8:27 – 9:30
<b>Unit Lunch</b>	10:53 – 11:43	11:21 – 12:11	No Lunch Served
<b>Block 3</b>	11:47 – 12:54	12:15 – 1:09	9:34 – 10:37
<b>Block 4</b>	12:58 – 2:07	1:13 – 2:07	10:41 – 11:44

**Buses Dismissed 2:15 pm**

**Revised 8/2019**