

September 3rd - September 6th

Dear Maranacook Faculty and Families

I hope you had an incredible summer! School has started and we all are settling in. We had a great opening assembly where students were welcomed back and got to meet new staff members. On Thursday of this week we held our Open House along advisor meetings. Thank you for your support and I hope you have a great school year!

Guidance: The start of the school year was super busy in guidance! Kim and Sara visited all study halls last Thursday and Friday to make schedule changes. Most schedule issues were smoothed out, but students still have until 9/13 to make additional changes.

The Kents Hill College Fair will be held on 9/23! Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors can sign up in guidance and pick up a Field Trip Form!

Senior meetings to go over post-secondary planning and provide application support will start next week! Students should look for a pass from their advisor and come to guidance for their one-on-one meeting. We look forward to working with all of our seniors as they prepare for life after high school!

JMG (Jobs for Maine Grads): Our brand new program here at MCHS has been off to a great start! For those who don't know, JMG's mission statement is "To identify students who face barriers to education, and to guide each one on to a successful path toward continued education, meaningful career, and productive adulthood." So far in our first unit "Intro to JMG/First Impressions," students completed a 'scavenger hunt' by browsing through the JMG website to learn more about our organization. Students were surprised to learn JMG has over 130 programs in middle schools, high schools and colleges all across the state. Students also completed an interactive activity that taught them the importance of active listening and how to properly engage in a conversation. Lastly, students spent a couple of days learning about the do's and don'ts of filling out a job application and filled out a sample job application of their own. We are looking for more students to join our program! If you think your student could benefit from learning leadership skills, communication skills, networking skills, career/college exploration and more, you can reach out to our guidance department or our JMG Specialist Mr. Sam Smith by phone or e-mail (phone: 207-685-4923 ext. 1068. E-mail: sam_smith@maranacook.com)

Advisee: The annual advisor training was held on August 26. Advisor spent the day learning about the advisor system and attending different informational sessions. The fall

Advisee Day Out will be Oct. 3. Junior advisee groups will participate in the United Way's Day of Caring, if anyone knows of someone who needs help in the community that day please contact the Junior Advisors.

Health Center: We've gotten off to a fast and furious start of the school year! Please take the time to fill out your child's emergency medical form for the school nurse. If you want your child to have access to a counselor and/or Nurse Practitioner at school, please fill out the green expanded services forms. These forms were sent home in the first day packets. If your child needs to take medication at school, please understand that a student cannot bring the medication in him/herself. It is school policy that a student not carry medication except for emergency meds like Inhalers/EpiPens/Insulin. The parent must come to school and meet with the nurse in order to administer medication at school. Thank you for your understanding and we are hoping for a healthy & safe school year!

English: After a wonderful summer filled with various professional development opportunities and course work, the English Department is excited to be back to school.

A continued primary focus of all of our classes this year will be student choice and independent reading. We would love support in trying to fill our classroom libraries with relevant and engaging texts. If you have any title recommendations or would like to make a donation, please don't hesitate to reach out to your student's teacher. Similarly, please talk to your student about what they are reading.

We would like to extend a warm welcome the fabulous Mrs. Cooper. She is joining our department this year as a full-time member. She brings such a diverse wealth of knowledge and experience to our students and we are so lucky to have her.

Similarly, we would like to wish our wonderful Ms. Kelley luck as she completes the year teaching abroad in Spain and we look forward to welcoming her replacement. Bon voyage!

Math: From Robbie Morin: Hello to Parents of Maranacook Community School. The first few weeks have got off to a great start. In my Math classes we have been reviewing previous Math skills to find where we are at and where we need to start. I've been reviewing basic skills and polishing up on some of their previous knowledge. My classes and I are getting to know each other and creating a fun, friendly learning atmosphere. Here is to another great year and looking forward to helping your student become the best math learners they can become.

From Bill Babbitt: My Geometry classes are constructing different designs using only a compass and a straight edge.

From Robyn Graziano: My AP Calculus AB class started the year off discovering whether it was possible to determine the velocity of an object at an exact instant. They worked in groups and all of the groups were able to figure it out with differing degrees of accuracy. It's a great group of students and I'm looking forward to being with them this school year. I am also the Math Interventionist. I am available to help students if they are struggling in their math class. Please email me if your child has an interest in working with me.

Social Studies: In the Social Studies Department many Global Studies students are learning about the September 11th Terrorist attacks of 2001. The topic of 9/11 is being used to help students understand how historic and current events can impact specific countries and the world as a whole. This introductory unit to Global Studies is also helping freshmen students learn the difference between primary and secondary sources. A primary source is a source that originates with the event/time period that it is about. For instance a photograph taken of the Two World Trade Towers on September 11th would constitute a primary source, whereas a book written a few years after the event would constitute a secondary source (even if the book contained some photographs of the day).

Science:

From Mrs.Marvinney: Earth Systems classes are beginning with a tool kit of skills that are used by all scientists and they are learning how science is different from other fields of study.

From Mr.Colvin: Honors Bio has begun the year defining the basic characteristics of life and discussing when those qualities no longer apply to complex organic influences such as viruses. Next they will spend some time reviewing chemistry and then learning about the major biomolecules.

AP Bio started the year off with a small assessment of the summer read, "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks." Additionally, they took a sample assessment designed to introduce them to the rigor of AP testing and college level science work. Next they will design and carry out a lab to test various sterilization techniques.

Robotics spent the first week and a half building robots and have been driving them manually in order to learn the various controls. Next they will begin the process of learning how to code the brains so that the bots can perform tasks autonomously.

From Mrs. O'Donoghue: All chemistry classes started the year with a laboratory investigation of milk. Students needed to explain at the beginning why they believed milk was either a pure substance or a mixture. We then proceeded to separate the milk into several different components and use that as evidence to either uphold or refute their hypothesis. We also have been practicing key skills that will be utilized throughout the course.

Fine Arts:

Music: Welcome to our new music teacher, Dan Gilbert! This school year is off to a good start! Rehearsals are going strong and this year we're starting up a new rock ensemble. "Modern Music Ensemble" is the working title.

IA: Introduction to IA students are board drafting for projects they're designing. Engineering students are learning AutoCAD on preparation for the CNC Router projects. Wood Design students are making laminate cutting boards to cut out on the CNC. Things are gearing up for a great year!

Visual Arts: Fine Metals students have begun working on their silver band rings. They are learning how to solder seams on their work with the torch.

Metals Design students have begun work forging their two steel bracelets and learned five different types of decorative forging techniques.

Digital Photography students are learning about the steps for digital photo editing and how to ensure high quality prints.

Introduction to Art students are learning about strategies to help them become more adept at drawing both figure and facial proportions of people. Its looking like the beginnings of a very promising year!

World Language: It's been a great beginning of the year in the World Language classes. The freshmen are settling in and all students are rising to the challenge with new expectations for their skill levels. Level 1 students will reach Novice 3, level 2 students will

reach Novice 4, level 3 students will reach Intermediate 1 and level 4 students will reach Intermediate 2 on the ACTFL skills scale, and students now know what they have to do to reach those expectations. Lots of new experiences in class!

Señora Frey and students in Spanish 3, 4 and 5 Honors are planning for their trip to Spain in March--it's only 6 months away!

Herr Fecteau and his students involved in the German American Partnership Program (GAPP) are preparing for the arrival of 20 students from our partner school in Viersen, Germany, in October. The students will live with host families, attend classes, and go on field trips around the state.

Technology: Freshman class Careers & Technology had a great start. Through this class they will learn the in's and out's of their computer programs that they will be using in classes. This summer the library changed due to construction for a new classroom. Susan Trott recruited volunteers for help, some teachers stopped in as well to help put the place back together. The library will be opening next Monday. Architect students will be designing using the computer room that is attached to the Media Center.

Student Senate/Council: We hosted our first Council meeting this Wednesday and our committee heads are ready to make this year an amazing year for the student body. Our deadline for Senate application is Friday, Sept 6th at 2:30pm. Senate Officers will meet Tuesday, Sept 10th to review senate applications. We will post the results of the selection on the Senate Board outside the Media Center. Our first Senate meeting will be on Thursday, Sept 12th during focus time.

Athletics:

Tuesday, September 4th: Boys Soccer Won 4-0 over Messalonskee

Wednesday, September 5th: No Events Scheduled

Thursday, September 6th: Golf vs Medomak Valley & Gardnier lost 3-6 Field Hockey @ Morse V lost 0-5 JV Won 3-1

Friday, September 7th: Golf @ Lincoln Academy at 3:30 pm Cross Country home at 4pm, Girls Varsity Soccer @ Lawrence at 6pm Football vs Boothbay at 7pm

Saturday, September 8th: Boys JV & Varsity Soccer vs Lawrence at 5pm

Upcoming Events:

9/13 Early Release

9/16 Picture Day

9/17 Staff Meeting

9/18 Late Start

9/21 Common Ground Fair Field Trip

Dwayne Conway, Ed.D

Principal

Class of 2022 Advisor

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