

MARENGO COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

December, 2019

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FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

Thursday, 12/19/19

Zero (See Instructor for details)

7:55am – 9:05am

1st Hour Exam

9:15am – 10:25am

2nd Hour Exam

10:35am – 11:45am

4th Hour Lunch/ Exam

11:55am – 12:35pm

5th Hour Lunch/ Exam

12:45pm – 1:55pm

3rd Hour Exam

Friday, 12/20/19

7:55am – 9:05am

6th Hour Exam

9:15am – 10:25am

7th Hour Exam

10:35am – 11:45am

8th Hour Exam

EXAM GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS

- Students must arrive at school in time for their first exam for the day.
- Once on campus, they must stay until they have completed their last exam.
- Students may not leave an exam until the end of the exam period.
- Students assigned to Assisted Study Hall, Numeracy Lab, or Resource Study Skills are required to attend class except during 8th hour.
- Students arriving after 7:55am should enter the school by the commons.
- There will be quiet study in the commons during the day.
- Students who need to miss an exam must fill out a prearranged absence form and get administrative approval. This will include notifying teachers.
- Students are not to be in the halls during exams. No hall passes will be issued.
- Buses will run at 2:05pm on Thursday, and at 11:55am on Friday.
- Students are required to be in attendance during the period an exam is scheduled. Students that are not approved to miss the exam will receive an F on the exam.
- Students out of school suspended will be assigned a make-up time and date.
- Students who need to make up an exam must contact their teacher to make arrangements for a make-up exam following Winter Break.

ILLINOIS 5ESSENTIALS SURVEY

The Illinois School Report Card relies on multiple indicators when measuring student success. One of the indicators, School Climate, requires parent participation in the form of a survey. If you have not already done so, please [click here](#) to access the Illinois 5Essentials Survey. The survey can be taken in either English or Spanish and should take less than 10 minutes. It is important that we have as many parents as possible take this survey. The timeframe to take the survey will end soon, so we ask you to do so as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this very important endeavor.

VETERANS DAY COMMEMORATION

On a snowy November 11th, area schools, community members, dignitaries, and over 100 veterans representing all branches of the military joined together at the MCHS gymnasium for the 12th Annual Veterans Day Program. The Marengo American Legion Post #192 Color Guard opened the program with the presentation of colors, while the branch flags were carried across the gym by members of the MCHS Student Advisory Council, accompanied by the MCHS band. The veterans in attendance were given recognition as their names were called during a roll call, and area school choirs and the high school band performed various patriotic songs.

This year's keynote speaker was Tony Seahorn, U.S. Army, a disabled Vietnam Veteran decorated for heroism. His medals include two Bronze Stars, two Purple Hearts, Air Medal for Valor in Flight, Vietnamese Gallantry Cross, and Presidential Unit Citation. Mr. Seahorn spoke about living with PTSD, and how he and his family cope with it. He also shared many experiences he had while fighting in the Vietnam War, including being the lone survivor after the helicopter he was in was shot down and crashed. He and his wife co-authored the book *Tears of a Warrior: A Family's Story of Combat and Living with PTSD*, which is available at MCHS for a suggested donation of \$20. Mr. Seahorn and his wife Janet also started TEAM PURSUITS, an Education Consulting and Outdoor experience for disabled veterans.

In line with our keynote speaker's message, Ben Shields spoke about "Heroes on Horses" sponsored by Hooves to Heal, NFP, which is a program aimed to help veterans deal with physical and mental disabilities, including PTSD. The final speaker was Layla Rentner, who told us what it meant to her to take the Oath and join the U.S. Army National Guard. As Layla looked out over the many men and women in uniform, she stated she was proud to be able to honor their sacrifices with her own.

A moment of silence followed these speakers, after which trumpeters Marco Magrini and Kierstin Fischer played *Taps*. The program ended with the choirs from all Marengo area schools singing *God Bless America*. After the program, veterans and their families were invited to a reception that consisted of desserts prepared by MCHS foods classes.





Ben Shields and Veteran Larry Scott, participate in “Heroes On Horses,” a Hooves to Heal program.



Painting students create window art to welcome veterans and the community to our program on November 11th.



Students learned about the five branches of the Armed Forces and discussed what Veterans Day means to our community. Together, they worked on posters to display how several generations of each branch participated in the major conflicts of the 20th century. They were proud to share about their family members' service in the military.

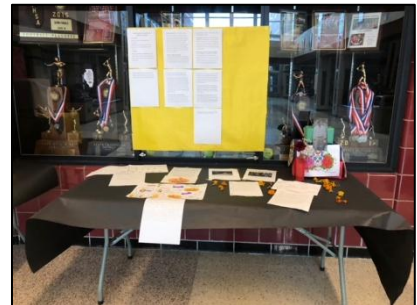
MARENGO COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL'S 17th LEGISLATIVE SEMESTER

The 17th Legislative Semester, our senior-level American Government simulation course, is headed to an exciting conclusion. Our Full Session is slated for December 6th and 13th and parents and community members are encouraged to attend the culminating floor debate.

Our seniors recently elected their Speaker of the House and respective Floor Leaders. They're now tasked with debating bills that students themselves created, including topics like Abolishing Eminent Domain, Increasing Funding for Renewable Resources, Abolishing Affirmative Action, and Migrant Detention Center Reform. Contact Bob Fecarotta, Social Studies Department Chair at fecarottab@mchs154.org for more details or if you would like to attend.

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

The end of October was very busy for our Spanish III and IV classes and the Latino Student Group. As part of the World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages, Spanish III students researched Halloween and compared and contrasted this holiday with Día de los Muertos, a celebration that takes place in Mexico to celebrate loved ones who have passed away. Spanish IV students chose a project to work on that helped them learn more about Dia de Los Muertos, and some students built a shrine after researching the different elements that make up an altar. They also developed an essay explaining their findings. The Latino Student Group took this opportunity to reconnect with their roots, learn more about their heritage, and share with the school community. This activity helps us all learn more about each other as well as our own cultural traditions.



Anna Cruz and Mercedes Gonzales paint their faces for Dia de los Muertos



On Monday November 18th, painting students taught a painting lesson to Riley 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. The teachers were Diego Lopez, Canon Donner, Olivia Jones, Erin Ferreira, and Emma Gailloreto.

Thank you to our Resource Officer,
JR Rzotkiewicz, for coming in to the health
classroom to educate our students on the
risks of drug abuse.



ENTREPRENEURSHIP ENTERPRISE

VE provides a solution for schools to offer all students meaningful skills-based career experiences. Through hands-on, task-based curriculum, students test out potential careers and develop skills and ideas that can be and are used in the real world. By managing the day-to-day operations of a company, students not only develop business skills and an entrepreneurial mindset, they also identify career pathways that align with their interests, talents, and aspirations.

At the beginning of the school year, students were interviewed by respected people throughout McHenry County and then they were assigned a job and given details on what it entails. Once our employees got settled in, our class ultimately decided to become Skyline, a company whose mission is to make the best trampoline with originality, imagination, and innovation, to help the youth develop a passion for the outdoors. There, the students were given tasks and assignments to complete independently. Our Human Resources Department headed by Fatimah Becovic, was in charge of creating an attendance form, filing systems, and an Employee Handbook. Finn Schirmer is the Marketing and Sales Department lead. This section of the company has been working to create a website, logo, and slogan, as well as define our target market, create the product, and determine how it will be sold. Our other department is Accounting, which is led by Sean Trainor. These employees have been creating a payroll register and working on legal forms, and everyone's work is overseen by the Chief Executive Officer, Brooke Aubry.

The students were giving insight when they attended, a business leadership conference in Naperville. Here, the students were placed in different presentations to learn more about their positions, the competitions they would be competing in, and what they need to do as employees to keep the company running. The purpose of the leadership conference was to help companies from different schools network with other businesses and give the students an experience of communicating and selling their products. After the conference, the students then got to work on a business plan and planned for their trip to Tennessee. The business plan was a 19-page overview of the business that included the overall mission, goals, target market, marketing strategy, and our financial plan. Then the class finished last minute booth details and headed to the Southern Regional Conference and Exhibition in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. There, they participated in numerous competitions including a Marketing Plan overview, in which they placed second out of over 90 firms. Not only did they compete, but they were able to interact with other schools and make purchases as well as man their own booth and make sales. Skyline's total number of sales in Tennessee was 127, and made over \$125,000 in virtual sales.



PRIDE OCTOBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

The PRIDE committee of Marengo Community High School recognized seventeen students selected by the faculty as "October Students of the Month." They were nominated for many reasons, including positive attitude, hard work, taking a leadership role, and willingness to go the extra mile. These students are: (left to right) Back row: Ty Sierpien (sophomore), Joseph Miceli (sophomore), Robert Scianna (senior) and Benjamin Shields (sophomore); Next Row down: Michaela Almeida (freshman), Ashtyn Martin (sophomore) and Mercedes Gonzalez (sophomore); Next Row down: Caleb Fast (freshman), Elizabeth Bowen (junior), Samantha Smith (junior) and Mallory

Leshner (freshman); Front row: Sydney Koplin (freshman), Kelly Rosner (senior) and Olivia Pribyl (senior). Not pictured were Daniel Antonson (junior), Jezlynn Brown (senior) and Meadow Green (junior). These students were treated to a pizza lunch provided by Joe's Place.

PRIDE THANKS SPONSORS

The PRIDE committee at MCHS would like to thank the following companies for their support of the PRIDE program. PRIDE strives to create a positive climate at MCHS by encouraging students to show their Indian Pride through demonstrating that they are Respectful, Responsible and Engaged. Thank you these proud sponsors of PRIDE!

Joe's Place, McDonalds of Marengo, Glo-Bowl Fun Center, Rosati's Pizza, Marengo Ridge Golf Course, Mr. Freeze, Schroeder Asphalt Services, Inc., B and K Power Equipment, Inc., Prairie Community Bank, Flatlander Market, Marengo Insurance Agency (Pekin Insurance), Bobby's Shoe Store, Doug Kunde Excavating, Inc., Ray Jones - American Family Insurance Agency, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 129 (Marengo).

THESPIANS ADVANCE TO FINALS

Congratulations to members of the 2019 MCHS Shakespeare Slam Team Libby Bowen, Brody Donner, Alexis Elquinni, Cameron Holst, Melanie Rocha, Amanda Tomasi, and Sammy Smith along with our two student coaches Rebekah Addis and Rebecca Millard who performed two scenes at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre at Navy Pier on Saturday. The team's scores in both rounds qualified them as one of two teams from Saturday's competition to advance to the Final Bout at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre on December 9th at 6pm. See Ms. Griffith or email her at griffithk@mchs154.org if you are interested in tickets for the performance.



GUIDANCE NEWS

REGISTRATION SELECTION PROCESS FOR 2020-2021

The counselors will be meeting with students to select courses for 2020-2021 in January and February. Parents please discuss course options and look over the course descriptions in the curriculum guide with your students. The curriculum guide will be available on our school website in January. Students will receive a course selection sheet. **College bound student athletes must register with NCAA as soon as possible, preferably sophomore year. Students interested in NAIA College Athletics should register as soon as possible as well. The information can also be found on the MCHS Guidance Website under College Athletic Eligibility.**

CLASS OF 2021 (Current Juniors) will receive information on February 4th, and will be called in to finalize student requests February 10-14, 2020.

CLASS OF 2022 (Current Sophomores) receive information on January 21st, and will be called in to finalize student requests January 27-31, 2020.

CLASS OF 2023 (Current Freshmen) will receive information on January 7th, and will be called in to finalize student requests January 13-17, 2020.

CLASS OF 2024 (Current eighth grade students) will receive registration packets on February 19th at Orientation Night. Informational tables for athletics and clubs will be available from 6:00-7:00pm. Orientation will be held in the high school auditorium at 7:00pm. Students will be submitting course selection sheets on March 2nd at Riley and Zion, March 3rd at MCMS.

PSAT 9, PSAT 10 and NMSQT

All students who participated in October testing, mark your calendar for Score Week! Students will receive an email stating that scores have been posted on December 10th. They then need to create a College Board account in order to see the scores. This [link](#) leads to a page with a helpful video on getting scores. You may also link your College Board account with your Khan Academy account to share the test score data in order to create a personalized (and free) SAT study for the April 14th assessment. Questions? Reach out to your student's counselor.

Freshman students met with their counselor during the past few weeks. Students were given the Xello career matchmaker results and reviewed grades and created a Four Year Plan. Parents, be sure to review this information with your student. If there are any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to the counselor.

Junior students will be meeting with their counselor now until the holiday break. The meetings will review credits earned, GPA, graduation requirements, and post-secondary planning. All students will receive a book, *Junior Year: Planning for Your Future*, which has a calendar of tasks, career exploration, college searching and financial aid information. This is a great resource for all parents. Encourage your student to sign up for the Class of 2021 Remind group for pertinent information regarding college visits, scholarships, job shadows, scholarships and much more throughout the next year and a half of high school. Text @marengo21 to 81010.

Scholarships are being added to the Scholarship page on the MCHS Guidance website. Please visit our MCHS Guidance Department site to locate all scholarships.

ATHLETIC NEWS

WINTER SPORTS UNDERWAY

We are off to an excellent start for our winter season. Basketball, bowling, cheer, and wrestling are all underway with many home contests in December. Our EC Nichols Basketball Tournament will be held December 21, 23, 27, 28. Brackets will be posted in mid-December!

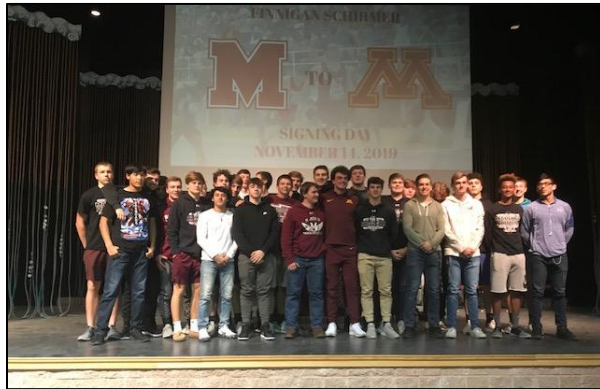
2019 FOOTBALL SEASON

Congratulations to the MCHS football team on another outstanding season. Marengo football finished the season with an 8-3 record overall, as well as a runner-up finish in conference play.

The Indians qualified for the IHSA state football playoff in class 4A for the second year in a row. Our football team earned a round one home playoff game vs Manteno High School. Marengo won 48-0 before falling to Richmond-Burton in round 2 of the IHSA playoffs. Our 2019 seniors finished their varsity career with an overall record of 17-6, and 10-1 in conference play over the last two seasons. Senior running back Finn Schirmer had several milestones over the course of the 2019 season. Finn tied the current school record for most rushing TDs in a game with 6 touchdowns. Schirmer ends his career with over 3,300 yards rushing, and he's Marengo's the all time leader in career rushing TDs with over 40.

We wish to give a special thank you to our operations and maintenance staff for their extra effort in clearing the grandstands of snow and ice for the home playoff game. We also want to thank B&K Power Equipment for extending their hours prepping equipment purchased for snow removal.

ATHLETIC SIGNING



Congratulations to Finn Schirmer, who signed his letter of intent to run track at DI University of Minnesota on Thursday, November 14th! Finn placed 1st in the 110M hurdles, 300M hurdles, and the 100M dash, and placed 4th in the 200M dash at the 2019 IHSA 2A State Track Meet.