

IMPORTANT DATES FOR FAMILIES OF FRESHMEN.

Tuesday, May 31, 2011
In-Coming Freshmen Athletic Orientation
Fall Sports Athletes ONLY – MANDATORY MEETING
7:00 p.m. MHS PAC

Wednesday, August 3, 2011 7:00 p.m. MHS PAC.
All Sport Meeting. All sports. All levels. All year.
MANDATORY MEETING.

Thursday, August 11, 2011 8:30-11:30 a.m. MHS.
PRE-PAID Freshmen Registration.

Monday, August 15, 2011 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m. MHS.
NOT PRE-PAID Freshmen Registration.

_____, **August** _____, 2011 at _____ in Room _____.
Parent / Guardian-Student-Advisor Family Conference.
To be scheduled between August 10-24, 2011.

Wednesday, August 24, 2011 6:30-8:30 p.m. MHS PAC.
Freshmen Orientation Night and Club / Activity Fair.
ATTENDANCE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.
This is the first time Advisories will be meeting as a group.

Thursday, September 1, 2011 8:05 a.m. – 3:25 p.m.
First Day of High School.
Format of the day will be communicated in August.

CONTACT INFORMATION.

Middleton High School Website
<http://mcpasd.k12.wi.us/mhs>

Links to Middleton High School, Parent Connection, *Cardinal Connection*,
Advisory Program Newsletters, *MyCampus*, Calendar of Events,
Announcements, and Staff Directory of Departments, Schedules, and E-mails.



PERSONALIZING
the **MHS**
EXPERIENCE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS.

Why was the Advisory Program started?

Now in its 10th year, the MHS Advisory Program was developed in response to (1) the decision to enlarge Middleton High School; (2) a national emphasis on smaller learning communities; and, (3) data collected addressing the following: *Is there an adult at Middleton High School who you feel cares about you as a person and as a student? How do we personalize a large school? What percentage of freshmen earned at least one 'F' in their first year high school? What does the Dane County Youth Survey reveal concerning student behavior and habits?* The entire program is built around the core belief statement that: *it is human relations and interactions that create a personable and positive school climate.*

What is the purpose of Advisory?

To *foster* intellectual growth and habits of commitment by developing closer *relationships* between staff and students and together establishing workable goals for their high school and post-high school experiences. To *coordinate* services. To *facilitate* communication (student-teacher-parent/guardian). To *help* students *advocate* for themselves. To *provide* an adult contact. And most importantly, to *personalize* each student's experience at Middleton High School. It's a program designed for your child to *help* them become a part of Middleton High School.

Who is in Advisory? How long is Advisory? When is Advisory?

All first-year freshmen are automatically enrolled in Advisory. It meets opposite PE on a 2 days ON-1 day OFF schedule within the AB Block Schedule Quarters 1-2-3. A 95-minute period is split between PE for 50 minutes and Advisory for 40 minutes. Study hall is on the day OFF.

Is there a set curriculum for Advisory?

Yes. Advisors balance required activities with advisory-specific activities. In addition to the program checklist, all students start an e-portfolio, get to know their school counselor, complete a service project, and work with Advisory student tutors.

Quarter 1 focuses on making a successful transition from middle school to high school, getting to know Middleton High School, and working together to create a sense of community. Quarter 2 adds 21st Century skills assessment and learning style recognition; study, time management, and decision-making skills; and, setting, monitoring and evaluating personal and academic goals. Quarter 3 continues with working together to make MHS a safe place for everyone, academic monitoring, and e-portfolio entries.

How is my child graded in Advisory?

Students who complete specific expectations related to attitude, participation, preparedness, respect, e-portfolio, and service earn 0.5 credit towards high school graduation.

When do I, as the parent/guardian, meet with my child's advisor?

For all families, the purpose of the first conference in August is to get acquainted, exchange information, prepare for the start of the school year, and answer questions. For some, the purpose of the second conference in January is to prepare a plan of action for academic improvement and discuss sophomore year course registration.

When should I contact my child's Advisor?

Whenever you have a question or concern about school-related topics or your child's adjustment and progress, contact the advisor. Remember to utilize your access to the MHS website and *MyCampus*. If the question is class-specific, like a specific exam grade or missing work in SS9, contact the classroom teacher directly. If the advisor doesn't have the answer, s/he will be able to point you in the right direction to get information or get back to you. [Updated May 2011]



WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT AS A PARENT / GUARDIAN.

A Middleton High School personalization program that:

1. *provides* a welcoming, caring and supportive environment;
2. has at least one adult at school who *cares* about and *knows* your child;
3. *helps* develop a sense of belonging to Middleton High School;
4. *orients* your child to Middleton High School;
5. *helps* monitor academic progress and *helps* develop 21st Century skills and habits necessary for academic success;
6. *promotes* an awareness and understanding of diversity in helping to create a safe place for everyone;
7. *develops* the school counselor-connection early and provides a format through which student services curriculum is implemented;
8. *encourages* a collaborative environment of working together;
9. *facilitates* a community service-learning project;
10. *serves* as an advocate / liaison within school and between home-school;
11. *publishes* a monthly freshman-specific newsletter for parents / guardians;
12. *conducts* Parent / Guardian-Student-Advisor conferences in August and January.
13. *incorporates* junior / senior student tutors;
14. *helps* your child complete their entries in a Personal e-Portfolio; and,
15. *invests* in your child as a whole person.