

Student Services Newsletter



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Jan 10 | Late Registration Deadline for 1/21 SAT Test (late fee) |
| Jan 10-11 | ARL Shadow Days |
| Jan 12 | New Student/Parent Orientation - Class of 2021 - 7pm |
| Jan 13 | Course Registration forms for 2017-18 school year due |
| Jan 13 | Registration Deadline for 2/11 ACT Test |
| Jan 16 | Schools & Offices Closed - Martin Luther King Jr. Day |
| Jan 20 | Late Registration Deadline for 2/11 ACT Test (late fee) |
| Jan 21 | SAT Test Day |
| Jan 23 | Period 1 Exam |
| Jan 24 | High Schools Close 3 hours early - Exams - pds. 2&3 |
| Jan 25 | High Schools Close 3 hours early - Exams - pds 4A&4B |
| Jan 26 | High Schools Close 3 hours early - Exams - pds 5&6 |
| Jan 27 | Schools Closed for Students - Professional Work Day |
| Jan 31 | PSAT Parent Night at Long Reach High School - 7 pm |

Counselors:
Jessica Little (A-E)
Jodi Dubbs (F-La)
Margie Ford (Le-Q)
Andrew Johnson (R-Z)

Registrar: Joni Deison
Secretary: Karen Leaf

410-313-5446

New Student/Parent Orientation – Class of 2021!

Orientation for new students and parents of the Class of 2021 was rescheduled for Thursday, January 12, 2017. Topics include graduation requirements, Grade 9 courses that will be offered, course registration process and more.

Date: Thursday, January 12, 2017
Time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Place: MRHS Auditorium



Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|-----|
| ACT/SAT Prep | 2-3 |
| Junior Interview Day | 4 |
| PSAT Information | 5 |
| Student Member of the Howard Co. Board of Education | 5 |
| Scholarships | 6-7 |
| Leadership U | 7 |
| College Programs & Events | 8 |
| Teachers for Tomorrow Program (T4T) | 9 |
| HC DrugFree | 9 |
| Upcoming College/Military Visits | 10 |
| College Open Houses | 10 |

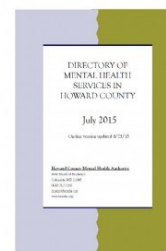
ATTENTION SENIORS!!

Maryland Higher Education Commission have made changes to the Howard P. Rawlings Guaranteed Grant and this can affect you!

Students who meet the income requirements for the Maryland Higher Education Commission Guaranteed Access (GA) Grant (identified through information on your completed FAFSA form), will automatically be considered for this scholarship for the 2017 -2018 academic year. The FAFSA window opened up on October 1st and the deadline will remain as March 1st to have priority consideration. The Office of Student Financial Assistance will continue to identify potentially eligible GA Grant recipients weekly until April 1st. There is no longer a separate application process for students to complete in order to be considered for this GA Grant. Consideration for this Grant is *solely* based upon the completion of the FAFSA no later than April 1st! Any student that has been identified by the Office of Student Financial Assistance potentially eligible for the GA Grant will be notified via email.

CRISIS TEXT LINE—Text START to 741-741 for free, anonymous and confidential support at your fingertips, 24/7. Text 741-741 from anywhere in the USA, anytime, about any type of crisis and a live, trained Crisis Counselor will respond quickly.

The “**Directory of Mental Health Services in Howard County,**” provided by the Howard County Mental Health Authority, is available to the public and can be found at the following link: <http://www.hcmha.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/HCMHA-Directory-October-2015.pdf>





SAT Test Dates

January 21, 2017
May 6, 2017
June 3, 2017

ACT Test Dates

February 11, 2017
April 8, 2017
June 10, 2017

ACT/SAT Prep

Juniors and Sophomores—Are you ready for the ACT/SAT? 2016-2017 resources for SAT and ACT prep classes are available. The PTSA and Student Services are partnering with Academic Coaches and The Answer to offer our students a variety of resources to help them improve their scores. For further information, contact your student's counselor or stop by Student Services.

The Answer: Affordable & Convenient SAT & ACT Prep

Register NOW for COMPREHENSIVE & CONVENIENT SAT and/or ACT PREP at MARRIOTT'S RIDGE HS!

The Answer Classes help students to gain confidence in their test-taking abilities and teach tips and strategies on timing, guessing, and scoring. Students get the prep that they need without wasting time or money – and the school benefits, too: **20% of all tuition collected is donated to MRHS PTSA!**

DON'T MISS OUT!

To date, more than 1,200 Howard County students have taken The Answer Classes and \$32,000+ has been donated to our partner schools in Howard County.

As well, over 97% of students who have taken The Answer Classes say that they would recommend them to a friend!

2017 SAT PREP AT MRHS

T/Th Jan. 10 & 12 from 5:30 pm - 9:30 pm

OR

M/W Feb. 13 & 15 from 5:30 pm - 9:30 pm

OR

T/Th Mar. 7 & 9 from 5:30 pm - 9:30 pm

WINTER 2017 ACT PREP AT MRHS

M/W Mar. 20 & 22 from 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm

REGULAR TUITION: ONLY \$159/class* OR \$249 for SAT/ACT Class Package

****Register at least one week ahead of your course and save \$10!****

For more information or to register, please visit www.theanswerclass.com or call 410-997-3006.

Academic Coaches: SAT Prep Classes**Full Prep Program:**

This program is recommended for students who need strategies as well as a full content review of the material. Total length of program is 7 weeks.

- 1-4 hour session of diagnostic testing (with pizza and beverages served during break)
- Twelve 2-hour sessions of instruction (24 hours total)
- McGraw Hill prep book and supplemental handouts
- A detailed analysis of the student's diagnostic test results
- Cost: \$375.00 (A portion of the cost is used to fund PTSA school activities)

SAT Prep Class at Marriotts Ridge for the March 11, 2017 SAT Date

Register now at www.academic-coaches.com

410-627-1328

This course includes strategies and a full content review specific to the Redesigned SAT. It begins with administration of a full-length diagnostic SAT including the now optional essay. Based on the results of the diagnostic test, a comprehensive scoring breakdown and full scoring review is given to each student including individualized strategy plans.

Classroom instruction covers all aspects of the new test, including test structure and scoring explanation, time management during the test, key word recognition, guessing strategies, math, grammar, and punctuation review, essay construction, and more! The program offers 24 hours of subject-specific instruction and four hours of diagnostic testing.

Class sessions are held at Marriotts Ridge on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5-7 pm (with the exception of the Diagnostic Testing on Jan. 17 from 5:00-9:15 pm)

Class dates and times are below.

MRHS SAT Prep Class Schedule for March 11, 2017 SAT Date

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Tuesday, Jan. 10 | Diagnostic Testing | 5:00-9:15 pm |
| Thursday, Jan. 19 | Reading/Writing & Languages | 5:00-7:00 pm |
| Jan. 23-27 | **Exam Week - No Classes** | |
| Tuesday, Jan. 31 | Reading/Writing & Languages | 5:00-7:00 pm |
| Thursday, Feb. 2 | Mathematics | 5:00-7:00 pm |
| Tuesday, Feb. 7 | Reading/Writing & Languages | 5:00-7:00 pm |
| Thursday, Feb. 9 | Mathematics | 5:00-7:00 pm |
| Tuesday, Feb. 14 | Reading/Writing & Languages | 5:00-7:00 pm |
| Thursday, Feb. 16 | Mathematics | 5:00-7:00 pm |
| Tuesday, Feb 21 | **School Closed - No Class** | |
| Thursday, Feb. 23 | Mathematics | 5:00-7:00 pm |
| Tuesday, Feb. 28 | Reading/Writing & Languages | 5:00-7:00 pm |
| Thursday, Mar. 2 | Mathematics | 5:00-7:00 pm |
| Tuesday, Mar. 7 | Reading/Writing & Languages | 5:00-7:00 pm |
| Thursday, Mar. 9 | Mathematics | 5:00-7:00 pm |
| Saturday, Mar 11 | SAT! | |

Junior Interview Day



MRHS Student Services is looking for parent volunteers to help with our Junior Interview Day, which will be held on March 29, 2017. The Junior Interview is a graduation requirement for all students. This process has been a huge success in the past because of the many parents who have volunteered their time. You will be conducting mock interviews and reviewing students' resumes. Our parents of the past have really enjoyed their experience.

Junior Interview Day will be split into two sessions (7:30am-10:15am and 11:00am-2:10pm). We are aware of the time constraints limiting many professionals and invite you to attend one **or both** sessions. Breakfast and lunch will be provided to all interviewers, compliments of Marriotts Ridge.

If you would like to help with our Junior Interview Day, please click on the link below. Please fill out the request by February 10th. If you haven't already done so, please complete the HCPSS Volunteer Training. (See information below) We will contact you with additional details and information as we get closer to the Interview Day. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs. Jessie Little at 410-313-5446 or jessica_m_little@hcpss.org.

Thank you for helping our MRHS students!

Thanks to all of you who helped last year. We can't hold this event without you!

<https://goo.gl/forms/AKNJOG0r43ZwBSoG3>

Parent Volunteers – PLEASE READ

HCPSS has developed a brief training module and certificate of completion for anyone that volunteers at Marriotts Ridge or any other Howard County Public School. Both the module and certificate are located on the HCPSS website, and we'll also create links from your schools to this page under the "Get Involved" navigation tag. **Parents/volunteers please complete the training and submit your certificate of completion to the school before registering as a volunteer.**

The training is available at: <http://www.hcpss.org/parents/volunteer-information/>



"Any other people skills, besides 400 Facebook friends?"

Thank you to the many volunteers who have already completed this process and submitted their certificate to the front office.

PSAT Score Information

Long Reach High School will be hosting a PSAT Information Night on January 31st at 7 pm.

Attention Parents of Students in Grades 9, 10 and 11 - On October 19, 2016, students in grades 9-11 participated in the Preliminary SAT (PSAT) assessment. Students who included an email address on their test booklets should have received an email from the College Board on December 12 containing directions to access their assessment results online.

not enter an email address at the time of testing. To assist families with interpreting the results, HCPSS will host a PSAT parent night on January 31, 2017, at 7 p.m., at Long Reach High School.



Paper home reports were distributed before the winter break to 10th and 11th grade students. Reports for 9th grade should be distributed mid-January. The home report will also include an access code for students who did

Student Member of the Howard County Board of Education

Attention sophomores and juniors: Are you interested in helping to shape county education policies? Applications are now being accepted for the Student Member of the Howard County Board of Education. The student elected by the students of Howard County will serve a one-year term on the Howard County Board of Education, July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. Applications are available in Student Services. Completed application packets must be received by Ms. Cindy Drummond, HCASC Advisor, HCPSS, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042 or by email, cindy_drummond@hcpss.org. no later than 4:00 pm on Friday, February 10, 2017.

Scholarship\$



MRHS PTSA SCHOLARSHIP

SENIORS – DO NOT WAIT UNTIL APRIL 14 AND THEN PANIC ...

Two Key Dates:

- YOU (Graduating Senior) MUST BE A PAID MRHS PTSA MEMBER BY JANUARY 27, 2017
- APPLICATION DUE DATE: MRHS PTSA Scholarship Applications are due Friday, April 14 at 2:30 PM!!!

Scholarships will be granted to four seniors!

THE \$1,500 Question: Will you be one of the Four?

The Application for the 2016-2017 MRHS PTSA Scholarships is available on the PTSA website.

Download and print from this site: <http://www.marriottsridgeptsa.org/>

Follow all instructions very carefully, please.

Questions? Contact Karen Chase, MRHS PTSA Vice President @ Karen.chase@unilever.com or 410.531.9818

The Howard County Professional Fire Fighters Association Scholarship

The Howard County Professional Fire Fighters Association, IAFF Local 2000, is pleased to announce that we will provide a \$500 scholarship for a graduating senior from each of our Howard County public high schools.

This scholarship is geared to help the “average” student who displays exceptional qualities and effort rather than being an award for the highest grades or sports aptitude. Any student who has attained a 2.5 grade average in their senior year and a minimum SAT score of 900 will be welcome to participate by submitting the enclosed form.

Entries shall be postmarked no later than April 1, 2017. Applications can be downloaded from Naviance or picked up in Student Services.



NORTHROP GRUMMAN ENGINEERING SCHOLARS PROGRAM

This scholarship program helps support promising high school seniors who intend to pursue a career in an approved engineering, computer science, mathematics or physics program and who live in communities where Northrop Grumman Mission Systems has a major presence. Multiple \$8,000 scholarships will be awarded to qualified high school seniors in Maryland’s 23 counties and Baltimore City. (one in each county; one in Baltimore City)

The application deadline is February 4. Applicants must submit an official transcript, three letters of recommendation and a 400-word essay. Complete the online application at <http://www.northropgrumman.com/CorporateResponsibility/Community/Pages/engineeringscholars.aspx>

- Must be a U.S. Citizen
- Must have a minimum composite SAT score of 1150 or ACT score of 27
- Must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 (un-weighted)
- Recipient must remain in an accredited four-year college or university as a full-time student in an approved engineering, computer science, mathematics or physics program.



Be sure to check NAVIANCE regularly for updated SCHOLARSHIP information!

Scholarship\$

MRHS BOOSTERS SCHOLARSHIP



HOW HAVE YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE AT THE RIDGE?

WHAT: Scholarship Opportunities – Two \$2000 scholarships toward future education expenses.

WHY: To honor two seniors who embody the Booster goal of “Making a Difference at the Ridge.”

WHO: Any senior who has made a significant difference at the MRHS, is a Boosters member, and maintains a 2.5 GPA.

HOW: Submit a personal statement which reflects how you have “*Made a difference at Marriotts Ridge High School,*” a personal resume, and a letter of recommendation.

Complete application directions/information sheets are available in the Student Services office.

WHEN: Students must complete their application by February 24, 2017. Application materials should be submitted to Ms. Dubbs in the Student Services office, in a sealed 9” x 12” envelope marked “Booster Scholarship.” The winners will be announced in May.

LEADERSHIP U

Are you interested in making a difference? Consider joining Leadership U Class of 2017! Leadership U is an exciting leadership development, team-building and community service opportunity for current high school sophomores. This four-month program involves a week-long summer program of hands-on learning and interactive activities, and involvement in a team community service project. This program is for students with leadership potential, a desire to learn with others, and with an interest for the community.

Who is in LeadershipU?

Students who live in Howard County

Students who have a desire to learn about their community and a willingness to volunteer

Students who want to have fun while meeting new people from different areas of Howard County

Interested Students should attend one of the free information sessions:

January 24 at Miller Library

February 13 at Central Library

March 2 at Miller Library

All sessions are from 7:00-8:00 pm.

Cost is \$875 (**financial assistance is available**). More information is available in Student Services. **Applications are due Thursday, March 16, 2017.** Visit www.leadershiphc.org.

College Programs, News and Events

2017 College Tours for Students

The MTM Foundation sponsors college tours that allow aspiring college students to visit college campuses and receive an introduction to college life. Tours are chaperoned by the Brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., teachers and parents. Chaperones are certified in First Aid/CPR and have undergone background investigations.

TOURS INCLUDE

Round trip
Motorcoach Transportation
Meals and Lodging
Meet College Coaches/Staff
On-Campus Activities

WORKSHOPS INCLUDE

Financial Aid Workshops
Available Scholarships/Endowments
Application Process Workshops
Campus Life Lessons
Two Participation Scholarships Awarded

IVY LEAGUE

April 6-10, 2016 - \$750.00

Brown University, Columbia University Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Pennsylvania State University, Princeton University, Harvard University, Yale University, University of Pennsylvania

HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

April 11-15, 2016 - \$575.00

Delaware State University, Bowie State University, Howard University, Hampton University, Norfolk State University, North Carolina Central University, North Carolina A&T University, Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College, Spelman College

To register and for more information, please visit www.mtmlfoundation.org or call 443-768-6939.



Bowie State University presents Black College Expo, 2017

Saturday, March 3, 2017
9am to 5pm

Bowie State University – Student Union
14000 Jericho Park Rd.
Bowie, MD 20715

- Scholarships & Financial Aid Resources
- Get Accepted to College on the Spot*
- Seminars and Workshops
- Student Athlete Recruitment Information
- Step Show & Celebrity Guests
- Band Auditions
- Win Dollars for College—see following details

*not applicable to all colleges

\$10 at the door / \$8 online / Special Group Rates Available

Students should bring several copies of your transcripts, SAT and/or ACT test scores for possible acceptance.

WIN DOLLARS FOR COLLEGE! - Winners must attend the EXPO to receive their scholarship. Please check in at the registration booth no later than 12:00 pm on the day of the EXPO.

All Juniors and Seniors are eligible to win scholarship money by writing an essay... "Why Is a College Education Important to Me?"

Deadline – Tuesday, February 21, 2017

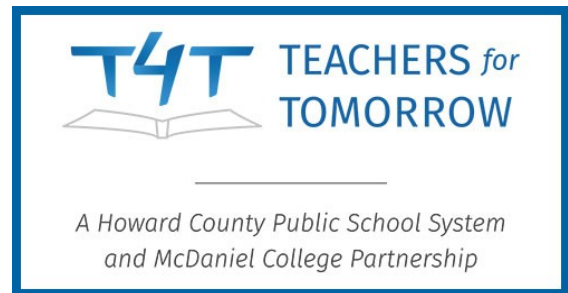
For more information and to register, go to www.thecollegeexpo.org or call 877-427-4100.

ATTENTION SENIORS!!

If you are eligible for free and reduced meals (FARMS) and show strong academic potential, you may be interested in the TEACHERS FOR TOMORROW program.

January 15 is the final deadline to apply to McDaniel College and file/submit the FAFSA.

Teachers for Tomorrow is an exciting opportunity for students who are impacted by poverty and show strong academic potential to earn a college degree from McDaniel College and then have a guaranteed job with our talented Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) workforce upon graduation. For more information, visit <http://www.hcpss.org/about-us/superintendent/teachers-for-tomorrow/>



HC DrugFree
Empowering the Community

Harvard Student to Speak at HC DrugFree Teen Meeting: On Monday, January 9, from 5:30-7:00 pm, HC DrugFree's Teen Advisory Council (TAC) will provide a *unique and special opportunity*, open to all Howard County high school students. Athena Kan, a graduate of River Hill High School, an 18-year old sophomore at Harvard, and former active member of TAC, will share her experiences at college, discuss drug and alcohol issues on the college campus, and answer questions. Community service hours are available for attendance at TAC meetings. Free pizza provided so teens must RSVP to Admin@hcdrugfree.org. TAC meetings are held at The Barn (Teen Center) in the Oakland Mills Village Center. The next meeting will be on **February 13** from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

HC DrugFree Category in HoCo FilmFest: HC DrugFree is partnering with the student-run HoCo Film Festival and looking for film-savvy teens to create **Public Service Announcements** (PSAs) focusing on alcohol/drug free alternatives to dealing with stress. PSAs will be shared across Howard County. The 2017 HoCo Film Festival will be held on Friday, March 10, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Charles E. Miller Library in Ellicott City. The deadline for films will be 11:59 p.m. on February 18. For additional guidelines and information, contact Admin@hcdrugfree.org or visit HC DrugFree's website at <http://www.hcdrugfree.org/hoco-filmfest/>. HC DrugFree's 2017 Topic is ***Stressed Out? KNOW Drug Free Alternatives***. Films are to support HC DrugFree's *In the KNOW* campaign. If you are not familiar with the campaign, please contact us. Films should focus on the stresses that teenagers face and how they can handle stress without drugs and alcohol; be 30-90 seconds long; be appropriate for family viewing; be an original concept or idea; and be sure to see updates and guidelines on HC DrugFree's website.

Upcoming College/Military Visits

Students must register in advance to attend a college/military visit. Students must register online through Naviance. Students will receive an email from Naviance confirming their visit – this email should be printed and used as a pass.

Feb 28

US Navy Recruiter

Open House Events

Bridgewater College

February 11, 2017

March 18, 2017

www.bridgewater.edu/visitcampus

Christendom College

February 20, 2017 - Spring Open House

April 24, 2017 - Spring Open House

www.christendom.edu/admissions/open-house/

Fairmont State University

March 25, 2017

fsuforme.com/visit

Messiah College

February 20, 2017 - Open House

April 8, 2017 - Open House

April 21, 2017 - Open House

www.messiah.edu/visit

Roanoke College

Monday, January 16 - Info Session & Tours

Sunday, February 19 - Math & Science Exploration Day for Seniors

Saturday, March 25 - Sophomore & Junior Visit

roanoke.edu/visit

Savannah College of Art & Design

January 14, 2017 (Savannah)

January 21, 2017 (Atlanta)

February 18, 2017 (Savannah)

March 4, 2017 (Atlanta)

April 1, 2017 (Savannah)

April 22, 2017 (Atlanta)

University of Alabama

February 6, 2017

February 20, 2017

March 6, 2017

March 27, 2017

universitydays.ua.edu

University of North Carolina - Greensboro

Junior Day - Friday, April 28, 2017

www.admissions.uncg.edu

University of Pittsburgh Johnstown

April 1, 2017

www.upi.pitt.edu/openhouse

Virginia Tech - A Day In the Life of a Physics Major

April 10, 2017

April 12, 2017

April 17, 2017

April 19, 2017

April 21, 2017

<http://www.phys.vt.edu/students/day-in-physics-student.shtml>

Western New England University

March 5, 2017

www.visit.wne.edu