

Parent Principal Corner



**MAP Testing ...
April 19th -
May**

Prom ... May 1st

**Seniors' last
day ... May 13th**

**Senior finals
will be their
last periods
they attend.**

**9th - 11th finals
will begin May
20th and will be
spread out until
May 25th**

Closing Out The Year

We only have one more month left, so I thought it might be smart to start planning for year end.

Senior parents should have received a mailing last month with graduation information. That same information can be found on the website. There has been a change in the schedule of the seniors' last day. Graduation practice will be after 3rd hour and lunch will follow practice. Seniors will be dismissed after lunch.

With check out only a month away, it might be a good time to remind your teenager to clean their room and look for any books/uniforms/etc they may have lost over the school year. Traditionally, I see parents paying for "stuff" at the end of the year, items their child says were stolen or lost, only to find the 'stuff' when they pack up for college.

Double check the grades. As we wrap up the next month, don't let any grade get to the point that credit is lost. (Make sure to read the first article on page 2.)

Talk with teachers of classes that your student may be failing, right now. Don't wait until May to do this. There is still time now, in May it may be too late.

By now your teen should have turned in their pre-enrollment form (actually filled this out online). Sometime in May they will be getting their schedule. Make sure to sit down with them and ask about the schedule, what classes they are taking and why they enrolled in those classes. If you have any questions about the schedule, May is the time to resolve them. August is so busy and it can take days after school starts to meet with a counselor and get the schedule changed.

In May I will talk about an online survey parents can fill out related to this past school year. Your feedback is important as we continue to create an educational system to meet our students' needs for their future

Changes for May finals

IMPORTANT READ FOR PARENTS!

In December we tried something new at the high school. We allowed students, who had all their work completed, to leave for the last half of the day on the last day of school. There were three goals in doing this: a) Give students some time to meet with teachers to get work made up. b) Provide a little motivation for the students to get their work turned in. c) Reward students who get all their work completed on time.

The plan was to do the same in May, but with the shifting of snow days the high school leadership team proposed we try this for two days. Both Monday (May 24th) and Tuesday (May 25th) we will excuse students, who have all their work done, after their second class of the day. During those afternoons, students may be required by their teachers to stay and meet with them to complete work. In some cases, teachers may give students the option of coming in or taking a zero. It should be noted though, once they have completed the required work they may leave, there is no need for them to stay until 2:35 p.m. (Bus riders can hang out in the cafeteria or make arrangements to hang with a teacher if they don't have a ride to leave early.)

Besides providing time for students who may have fallen behind, this helps us address students in spring sports who will miss a half-day on Friday. They can make up their finals on Monday.

Why is this important to students and parents? This is the last chance for students to get their work completed. Teachers leave for the summer on May 26th so this frees up our teachers to work with students as needed. If

students fail to complete their work, they receive a "0" for the assignment. This could drop the student's grade and worse yet, could lead to the student failing the course. All the hard work during the semester can go down the tubes and the student loses credit because they didn't work with the teacher to get the work done in the last days. I urge you to sit down with your student and discuss if there is a need to see a teacher on these two days. If you are not sure, contact the teacher. Remember, our goal is to help your child be successful.

After School Hours

During the cold weather months we kind of closed our eyes to the students hanging around after school. The problem is that we don't have any real supervision for students who just hang around. Plus, if one stays, then a friend or two stays, and then their friends and we end up with a bunch of students without supervision. Even good kids get a little silly without supervision, at times.

But this spring we are pushing hard to clear out the halls. If a student has to stay for tutoring, ROTC, music, etc there is no problem because we have someone supervising those activities. But hanging around after the activity, or simply hanging around just because, cannot continue. We know this can create a challenge for some parents. If you have a real problem, please call and visit with one of the administrators.

We want to make sure your child is safe while at school, we hope you understand.

CENSUS 2010

We were asked to share the following: "It happens every ten years. In fact, you may have already received something in the mail from the Census. Please make sure to fill out the survey when it arrives in your mail box and mail it back in the pre-paid envelope. All the information collected in the Census survey is confidential. Nothing you write down in your survey will be shared with any other government agency. If you need help filling out the survey, Census staff will be happy to help. For help, call the Census at 1-800-923-8282.

Surveys

Speaking of surveys, soon I will be asking students and staff to complete my annual spring survey. I will share the data with my leadership team and we will use it to discuss plans for next year.

In addition, I will launch my first parent survey. This will not be available until June, but I hope when it becomes available you will take a moment to share your thoughts. Like the student and staff surveys, I will share the results with the leadership team and use it to help guide us next year.