

Mount Greylock Regional School District

Guidance Office

1781 Cold Spring Road

Williamstown, MA 01267

P: (413) 458-9582 x 1250

F: (413) 458-2342

www.mgrhs.org

September 2019

To the Class of 2021 and Parents/Guardians:

As you begin the second half of your high school education, it is important to effectively plan your educational future. Enclosed is information we hope will be helpful in this process, including the *Calendar for Juniors* that guides you through the post-secondary planning process and helps you meet essential upcoming deadlines.

We strongly encourage all juniors to take the PSAT at Mount Greylock on **Saturday, October 19**. The **deadline** for signing up for this exam is Wednesday, October 16, 2019. The PSAT is a preliminary or practice version of the SAT required by a vast majority of college admissions offices. When students sign up (**\$21.00** cash or check payable to MGRSD) for the PSAT in the guidance office, they will receive a PSAT Student Bulletin that is full of test taking tips and strategies, as well as sample questions and a sample test. Sign up immediately!

Berkshire Community College is hosting a National College Fair on Wednesday, October 2. The College Fair is a good opportunity as you're thinking about post-secondary options. Over 100 college representatives as well as military recruiters will be on hand to provide information about their programs. Juniors are encouraged to join the Guidance Office on a field trip to the college fair from 9am-11am. A \$6 bus fee and signed permission is required to attend. Space is limited on a first come first serve basis so hand in your fee and slip as soon as possible. Last day to sign up is Monday, September 30th.

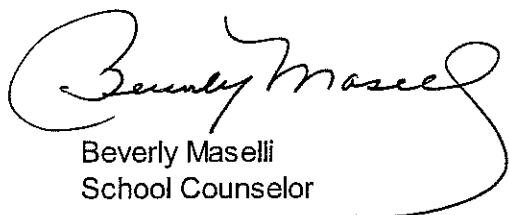
College Rep Visits: Over 60 colleges are visiting Mount Greylock this fall. Juniors are welcome to attend, and will have the opportunity to meet the individual that will answer questions and perhaps read their application senior year, so come and make a great first impression. A list of college visits is noted in this packet. To sign up to meet with a college rep, visit Guidance to fill out a Yellow permission form to be excused from class.

We also invite you and your child to visit the College and Career Center located in the Guidance Office. Career options, college and military information, including videos, catalogs and viewbooks, are available to help in your research.

AP COURSE REMINDER: Every student taking an AP course is required to take the AP exam in May. The fee is **\$94 per exam** and registration is due by November 15th. More information will be forthcoming regarding how to register this year.

Please note it is important to concentrate on raising your GPA junior year as colleges rely heavily on your academic progress this year. Tutoring is a great option to help boost your grades. See your counselor regarding what might work for you. Do not hesitate to contact the guidance office if you have questions about the enclosed material or if we can be of help in any way.

We will begin meeting with your Juniors mid year to discuss the college process and post-secondary options. A parent presentation will be held in the spring.



Beverly Maselli
School Counselor



Jessica Casalinova
School Counselor

JUNIOR YEAR CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

- ◆ Review your high school courses. (Keep in mind college requirements.)
- ◆ Register for the PSAT in the guidance office (register by Oct. 16). The test is **Saturday, October 19**. Bring \$21.00 payable to MGRSD or in cash to Ms. Tierney in Guidance.
- ◆ Read PSAT/NMSQT Student Bulletin and take practice exam.
- ◆ Get involved in activities; genuine involvement in one is better than token participation in several.
- ◆ Check announcements for colleges that are visiting Mount Greylock and fill out a yellow permission form that's found in Guidance.

OCTOBER

- ◆ Read PSAT/NMSQT Student Bulletin and take practice exam.
- ◆ Take PSAT/NMSQT exam on October 19.
- ◆ Obtain your Social Security number (you'll need it for college applications).
- ◆ Develop a list of your interests.
- ◆ Meet with college representatives as they visit MGRHS throughout the school year. Sign up in Guidance.

NOVEMBER

- ◆ Begin to involve your parents in the college choice process.
- ◆ Put forth your best academic effort in these last two years.

DECEMBER

- ◆ Review your PSAT scores and develop a strategy for SAT preparation.
- ◆ Read Taking the SAT bulletin available in the guidance office.
- ◆ Talk with graduates who are home from college.

JANUARY

- ◆ Talk with your counselor about your initial college interests.
- ◆ Prepare for semester exams; colleges weigh heavily on your junior grades, and your **junior** year is your last opportunity to raise your GPA.

FEBRUARY

- ◆ Plan senior year courses.
- ◆ Attend college/career planning groups with your guidance counselor.
- ◆ Begin the college search.

MARCH

- ◆ Attend college/career planning groups with your guidance counselor.
- ◆ Register for May and/or June SAT Reasoning or SAT Subject tests at collegeboard.org
- ◆ Ask your counselor about summer enrichment programs.
- ◆ Discuss your senior schedule with your counselor.

APRIL

- ◆ Develop a preliminary list of colleges that interest you and begin making contacts.
- ◆ Plan visits to colleges that interest you.
- ◆ Take the ACT in April and/or register for the June SAT
- ◆ File service academy and ROTC scholarship applications.

MAY

- ◆ Attend local college fairs.
- ◆ Identify teachers you can ask for recommendations.
- ◆ Take the SAT Reasoning or SAT Subject test.
- ◆ Register for the June ACT
- ◆ Make a profile of colleges that interest you; use Naviance, Barron's, The College Handbook, college catalogs, and other resources available in the guidance office and College and Career Center.

JUNE

- ◆ Take June ACT or SAT Reasoning/SAT Subject Test
- ◆ Continue the college search and discuss choices with your counselor.
- ◆ Plan summer visits to colleges.
- ◆ If you do not have a job, try volunteering in a career area in which you are interested.

SAT & ACT TEST DATES 2019-2020 - MGRHS CEEB# 222-415

Register at *collegeboard.org*

SAT DATES	OCT 5 2019	NOV 2 2019	DEC 7 2019	MAR 14 2020	May 2 2020	June 6 2020	July 18 2020
Registration Deadline	SEP 6	OCT 3	NOV 8	FEB 14	APRIL 3	MAY 8	JUNE 19
Mount Greylock #22-904					✓	✓	
Pittsfield HS #22-652	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Drury HS #22-580			✓	✓			
Hoosac Valley HS #22-104		✓			✓		
Monument Mt. HS #22-396				✓			
Mt. Anthony UHS #46-110	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Register at *act.org*

ACT DATES	Oct 26 2019	Dec 14 2019	Feb 8 2020	April 4 2020	June 13 2020
Registration Deadline	SEP 20	NOV 8	JAN 10	FEB 28	MAY 8
Berkshire School #195110	✓			✓	
Drury High School #226430	✓				
Miss Hall's School #184520		✓		✓	
Mt. Anthony UHS #157980	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Taconic High School #243700	✓	✓			

Colleges visiting Mount Greylock

<u>College</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Franklin Pierce University	Steve Hennessey	Tue September 24, 2019	10:16 AM
Dickinson College	Kate Guertin	Tue September 24, 2019	10:45 AM
Bentley University	Jake Mulvey	Wed September 25, 2019	7:40 AM
Williams College	Alexandra DiAddezio	Wed September 25, 2019	9:28 AM
Worcester Polytechnic Institute	Kate Bellaud	Wed September 25, 2019	10:45 AM
Roger Williams University	Zaryah Guyton	Thu September 26, 2019	7:40 AM
University of Chicago	Jack Behre	Fri September 27, 2019	7:40 AM
University of Massachusetts, Amherst	Melissa Sibley	Fri September 27, 2019	8:28 AM
Westfield State University	Aaliyah Mercer	Fri September 27, 2019	9:28 AM
Wheaton College MA	Galicia Rothe	Fri September 27, 2019	12:55 PM
Becker College	Logan Murphy	Mon September 30, 2019	7:40 AM
Suffolk University	Jennifer Finnigan	Mon September 30, 2019	8:28 AM
Curry College	George Garcia	Mon September 30, 2019	9:28 AM
Western New England University	Jana Kmec	Mon September 30, 2019	10:16 AM
SUNY Oswego	Bob Casper	Mon September 30, 2019	12:55 PM
Anna Maria College	Peter August	Mon September 30, 2019	1:42 PM
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth	Brittany McCarron	Tue October 1, 2019	7:40 AM
Lasell University	Skylar Beckerman	Tue October 1, 2019	9:28 AM
University of Massachusetts, Boston	Tim Ford	Tue October 1, 2019	12:55 PM
University of New England	Trevor Faulkner	Tue October 1, 2019	1:42 PM
Sarah Lawrence College	Vanessa Pius	Wed October 2, 2019	7:40 AM
Gettysburg College	Alexander Stowe	Wed October 2, 2019	8:28 AM
University of Hartford	Nathan Burrage	Wed October 2, 2019	12:55 PM
University of Vermont	Bridget Baldwin	Wed October 2, 2019	1:42 PM
Emerson College	Michael Brosseau	Fri October 4, 2019	8:28 AM
Fitchburg State University	Scott Fournier	Fri October 4, 2019	10:16 AM
Siena College	Meghan Buckley	Fri October 4, 2019	10:45 AM
American International College	Jason St. Jacques	Mon October 7, 2019	1:42 PM
Endicott College	Chris Lipscomb	Tue October 8, 2019	1:42 PM
Brown University	Bailey DiOrio	Wed October 9, 2019	7:40 AM
Lafayette College	Matthew Hyde	Wed October 9, 2019	8:28 AM
University of Massachusetts, Lowell	Michael Kalenoski	Wed October 9, 2019	10:45 AM
Middlebury College	Samuel Prouty	Thu October 10, 2019	1:42 PM
The New School - All Divisions	Tina Wu	Tue October 15, 2019	8:28 AM
Wentworth Institute of Technology	Daniel Chadwick	Thu October 17, 2019	12:55 PM
Merrimack College	Lauren Broderick	Thu October 17, 2019	1:42 PM
Connecticut College	Denise Perez Marquez	Tue October 22, 2019	8:28 AM
Babson College	Lindsay Ewing	Wed October 23, 2019	1:42 PM
Bates College	Nathania Francois	Thu October 24, 2019	10:45 AM
Mount Holyoke College	Michelle Barrett	Thu October 24, 2019	12:55 PM
Vassar College	Rachelle Ehrman	Fri October 25, 2019	8:28 AM
Union College (New York)	Katherine DeSieno	Tue October 29, 2019	7:40 AM
Saint Anselm College	Jillian Morrisino	Tue October 29, 2019	8:28 AM
Russell Sage College	Gabrielle Maisonet	Tue October 29, 2019	10:45 AM
Saint Joseph's College-ME	Jennifer Murphy	Fri November 1, 2019	10:45 AM
Mildred Elley (Pittsfield Massachusetts)	Matt	Mon November 4, 2019	10:16 AM
Sacred Heart University	Elizabeth Zaffina	Tue November 5, 2019	10:45 AM
University of New Haven	Daniel Constantinidi	Thu November 7, 2019	12:55 PM
Plymouth State University	Alex Boudreau	Tue November 12, 2019	12:55 PM
University of Maine	Abbey Jordan	Thu November 21, 2019	8:28 AM

Berkshire Community College Fair

List of Colleges in Attendance

Anna Maria College
 Bay Path University
 Bennington College
 Bridgewater State University
 Cazenovia College
 Central Connecticut State University
 Clarkson University
 Colby-Sawyer College
 Elms College
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
 Emerson College
 FIDM
 Le Moyne College
 Manhattanville College
 Merrimack College
 Northern Maine Community College
 Paul Smith's College
 Plymouth State University
 Russell Sage College
 Siena College
 Simmons University
 SUNY Polytechnic Institute
 The College of Saint Rose
 The University of Rhode Island
 Universal Technical Institute
 University of Hartford
 University of Southern Maine
 Lesley University
 University of New Haven
 Worcester State University
 Bard College at Simon's Rock
 Maine College of Art
 MCPHS University
 University of Maine at Farmington
 Bryant University
 University of New England
 Wentworth Institute of Technology
 Fulton-Montgomery Community College

Fitchburg State University
 Curry College
 University of Massachusetts Boston
 Sweet Briar College
 Franklin Pierce University
 Marlboro College
 Salem State University
 College of the Atlantic
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 Messiah College
 University of Bridgeport
 Saint Joseph's College
 Northern Vermont University
 Vermont Technical College
 Suffolk University
 Roger Williams University
 Full Sail University
 Emmanuel College
 Lasell University
 Saint Anselm College
 Sacred Heart University
 Springfield College
 University of Vermont
 Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
 Utica College
 The College of New Jersey
 Thomas College
 Acadia University
 University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
 Fisher College
 Westfield State University
 Johnson & Wales University
 Assumption College
 Endicott College
 Florida Institute of Technology
 Stonehill College
 Rochester Institute of Technology
 Becker College
 The University of Alabama
 University of Maine at Orono

Southern New Hampshire University
 Massachusetts Maritime Academy
 Castleton University
 Dean College
 Clark University
 Verto Education
 Rivier University
 Framingham State University
 Norwich University
 American International College
 New England Institute of Technology
 Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
 Rutgers University-New Brunswick
 Springfield Technical Community College
 University of Tennessee
 University of Massachusetts Amherst
 University of New Hampshire
 University of Massachusetts Lowell
 Columbia College of South Carolina
 Husson University
 Saint Michael's College
 Sierra Nevada College
 Rhode Island College
 Unity College
 Nichols College
 Berkshire Community College
 SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry
 Keene State College
 Western New England University

COLLEGE FAIR INFORMATION

STUDENTS, PARENTS!!

The following suggestions should help in getting the most out of this event:

- ◆ **DO YOUR HOMEWORK.** Keep in mind the criteria you are using for selecting a college (geographic location, size, programs, financial aid, academic requirements, admissions criteria) and narrow your choices before you arrive. You can't visit all 150 schools.
- ◆ **HAVE PERTINENT ACADEMIC INFORMATION WITH YOU.** Know your average and PSAT or SAT scores. If you have an idea which program you wish to study, mention that as well.
- ◆ **DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK QUESTIONS.** College counselors are there to assist you with your planning and look forward to questions. Nothing you say at this program will be used to determine whether or not you are accepted at a particular college. Make the most of this by asking what you need to know.
- ◆ **MAKE IT A FAMILY AFFAIR.** Bring your parents along. They need not accompany you from table to table. You can discuss with them beforehand what you want to find out and which colleges you want to visit, and then split your list with them and go separate ways. This way you can get information about more colleges. Or you may want to visit the same colleges separately so that you can compare notes later on.
- ◆ **KEEP AN OPEN MIND.** Don't neglect a college because you have "never heard of it." One reason for a college fair is to introduce you to institutions that may meet your needs very well but you might not have learned about on your own.
- ◆ **FOLLOW UP ON WHAT YOU LEARN.** Discuss with your guidance counselor what you plan to do next and ask their advice. Counselors can verify the feasibility of your choices, tell you about application procedures and deadlines, write letters of recommendation, and assist you throughout the process.

We hope you find our program helpful. GOOD LUCK!!

PRE-COLLEGE FAIR GUIDE

The College Fairs will afford students, parents and educators a fine opportunity to receive first-hand information regarding many institutions of higher education. Participation in a fair will be very helpful to students and their parents as they engage in the process of selecting an appropriate institution of higher education. A College Fair is an ideal event for fact finding in-depth in a short space of time.

Prior to attending a College Fair, it is important that students give some thought to the type of further education that they might care to pursue. See your high school counselor and visit the College and Career Center prior to a fair to discuss your thoughts regarding postsecondary options. They have reference materials that will be helpful in this exploratory process. Prior to the fair, students should select at least two or three institutions and plan to meet with their representatives.

The following guidelines may be helpful to students as they think through the questions they would like to ask the various representatives that are available at the fair. Students should make notes and write out questions that they desire to have answered. Students should feel free to take these notes with them to the fair.

Sample Questions to Ask College Representatives at a College Fair

- What internship opportunities are available in my major?
- What is your admissions criteria?
- How many students attend this school without a major in mind? (Undecided)
- Do you have special requirements for admission for certain majors?
- What types of jobs or graduate schools do students attend after they graduate?
- Could you review your financial aid deadlines and necessary forms to apply for financial aid?
- What services does your career planning office provide?
- What academic support does your college offer (ex: tutoring, writing center, math support) and is it free?
- How do I become involved in the honors program?
- How many students will be in my first year courses?
- Are freshman courses taught by full-time faculty or by graduate assistants?
- What kinds of work-study jobs are available?
- What is the retention rate at this school?
- Does this school offer study abroad programs?
- What types of things do students do on the weekend?
- What is the culture like on campus?
- Do many students go home or away for the weekend?
- What's there to do on campus on the weekend?
- What percentage of students receive financial aid and what does the typical package look like?
- Do you have any campus traditions?
- How do you apply for school specific scholarships?

MOUNT GREYLOCK GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

College Fair at Berkshire Community College

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

Bus transportation is available to Berkshire Community College to attend the College Fair on Wednesday, October 2, 2019. Plans call for the bus to leave at approximately 9:00 a.m. and return to Mount Greylock by approximately 11:00 a.m.. **A \$6.00 transportation fee and permission form should be submitted by Monday, September 30th, to the guidance office.** No students will be permitted to drive to the college fair during the school day. Spots fill up quick and this is on a first come, first serve basis.

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COLLEGE FAIR PERMISSION SLIP

_____ has permission to attend the BCC College Fair field trip on Wednesday, October 2, 2019 from 9:00am to 11:00am.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Emergency Contact

Phone Number

JUNIORS AND SENIORS

Take the 2019 PSAT/NMSQT

With the PSAT/NMSQT you can:

- ☐ Prepare with SAT® practice recommendations from Khan Academy® based on your performance on the PSAT/NMSQT®.
- ☐ Access college planning resources that can help you explore careers, colleges, majors, scholarships, and more.
- ☐ Enter the National Merit® Scholarship Program for recognition and scholarships.
- ☐ Connect with colleges and universities.
- ☐ Assess your skill levels and readiness for college and career.
- ☐ Get suggestions on how to improve your academic skills.

Date/Time: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19th

Cost: \$21.⁰⁰

Location: MGRS

Additional information: STUDENTS SHOULD ARRIVE IN THE LOBBY BY 7:30AM
STUDENTS NEED TO BRING A PHOTO ID, CALCULATOR, PENCILS
& A SNACK FOR TEST DAY.

COLLEGE REP VISIT

Permission Form

All students need permission from their teacher to attend a college visit during class time.

I, _____, understand that I am responsible for missed class work while I attend a college visit in Guidance.

Name of College: _____ Class to be missed: _____

Signed up in Naviance : _____ Day and Block : _____

Teacher signature: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

COLLEGE REP VISIT

Permission Form

All students need permission from their teacher to attend a college visit during class time.

I, _____, understand that I am responsible for missed class work while I attend a college visit in Guidance.

Name of College: _____ Class to be missed: _____

Signed up in Naviance : _____ Day and Block : _____

Teacher signature: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____



College Prep Info Night

Set yourself up for success with the college search and application process

Join Dr. Joshua Mendel (MCLA, Director of Recruitment and Outreach) and Ann Marie Mutz (Pittsfield High School, School Counselor) for a free event for students and their parents sponsored by Adams Community Bank.

WHEN:

Tuesday, October 8th @ 7pm

WHERE:

Norad Mill, 60 Roberts Drive
North Adams

Light refreshments will be served

LEARN ABOUT:

- Choosing Where to Apply
- Important Timelines
- Application Process
- Essay Writing
- Campus Visits

REGISTRATION:

*Please leave a message for Kyla with number of attendees by **Friday, October 4th** (413) 749-1179 or kmorrissey@adamscommunity.com*

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