



Matawan Regional High School

*"Home of the Huskies"*

Weekly Newsletter 2025-2026

## MRHS Weekly Updates

**October 27, 2025**

Greetings Huskies:

I hope everyone had a great weekend. Thank you to all that came out to our **KEYS Academy Walk for Recovery** on Saturday. It was great to see so many of you come out and join us in our walk for a cause. We will continue our fight against drugs and alcohol abuse as we celebrate and recognize **Red Ribbon Week**. Red Ribbon Week runs from October 27th -31st and is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention awareness program. This week is to encourage drug prevention and awareness and to educate students on the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol.

- During Red Ribbon week, our civic leaders will be in the cafeteria encouraging students to complete a "Red Ribbon Pledge" to be drug and alcohol free. In return, students will receive a red ribbon that they can display on their clothing or backpacks.
- Civic leaders will also play a "wheel of misfortune" game in the cafeteria as a way to quiz their fellow students about statistics and facts about drug and alcohol abuse.
- Finally, the civic leaders will share statistics about addiction on the morning "Scoop" announcements.

All students and staff are encouraged to show their support of Being Drug & Alcohol Free by dressing up for our school spirit days.

- **Monday** - I am Red-y to live a Drug Free Life - Wear Red!!!
- **Tuesday** - Sock it to Drugs - Be Creative with your brightest, craziest colored socks.
- **Wednesday** - Lei off Drugs!!! - Wear a Lei or a Hawaiian Shirt
- **Thursday** - Friends don't let Friends Do Drugs! - Twin Day!!!
- **Friday** - Be anything but Hooked on Drugs!!! - Dress in your favorite costume.
  - (See Below for Costume Contest Rules)

Reminder... We will be operating on a 1/2 day schedule on Friday, October 31st. Students will be dismissed at 11:15am. Trick or Treat!!!

Finally, The Class of 2028 is Hosting a Dine to Donate at The Burger Shop Matawan this week on Wednesday and Thursday from 4 pm to 9 pm. Be sure to mention MRHS Class of 2028 at checkout for a portion of your bill to be donated to the Class of 2028.

Let's make it another great week!!!

Michael C. Wells  
Principal

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## Halloween Costume Contest - Friday, October 31, 2025

### Participation Rules

1. **Appropriateness:** Costumes should be appropriate for a high school setting, avoiding any offensive or inappropriate themes, symbols, or language.
2. **Safety First:** Ensure that costumes do not pose a safety hazard. Avoid sharp objects, excessive makeup impairing vision, or costumes that could potentially cause tripping.
3. **Respect Boundaries:** Respect personal space and boundaries. Avoid costumes that invade the personal space of others or may be uncomfortable for fellow students.
4. **No Masks or Face Coverings During the School Day:** Masks that cover the face should not be worn during the school day to ensure easy identification and a secure learning environment.
5. **No Real or Prop Weapons:** Absolutely no real or Prop weapons or items that could be mistaken for weapons can be in school.
6. **Avoid Distractions:** Costumes should not be overly distracting to the learning environment. Avoid excessive noise, lights, or other elements that could disrupt classes.
7. **Respect School Policies:** Adhere to school policies regarding dress code and costume guidelines. Costumes should not violate the established rules of the school.
8. **Keep it PG:** Costumes should be within a PG rating, considering the diverse age range in a high school. Avoid overly mature or explicit themes.
9. **Have Fun Responsibly:** While enjoying the Halloween spirit, remember to have fun responsibly. Respect others, be mindful of your actions, and contribute to a positive and inclusive atmosphere!

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## Civic Leadership Retreat

The high school's Civic Leadership II classes went on an overnight leadership retreat at Princeton Blairstown Center in Hardwick, NJ. During this retreat, students worked cooperatively to complete a variety of tasks and games including ropes courses and ziplining, while also having the opportunity to explore the surrounding woods during morning and nighttime hikes. The PBC staff led students in leadership activities where students identified their personality types, in order to

use those realizations to assist them in class when presenting freshman lessons and tackling many of the school projects they have planned throughout the year. Finally, students were given an opportunity to bond with their civic leadership peers during their night time bonfire, cabin time, and meals in the PBC dining hall lodge. The Civic Leadership class of '26 are looking forward to a great year!



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## AP Research Commitment Ceremony

This week, our AP Research students participated in our annual **Commitment Ceremony**, a symbolic event designed to celebrate and formalize students dedication to their year-long academic investigations. Framed as a playful "marriage" between the student and their chosen research topic, the ceremony emphasizes the substantial commitment required for the AP Research course. Each student "vowed" to see their project through to completion, promising to dedicate themselves to the rigorous process of designing, planning, and executing an original research study. This milestone is a critical step in the AP Capstone program, as students now embark on the most challenging phase of their journey: writing a comprehensive, college-level academic paper of 4,000-5,000 words based on their findings. We look forward to supporting them as they dive deeper into their fascinating topics!

*Till May do you part....*



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## Winter Sports Registration Now Open!

Registration for **Winter Sports** at Matawan Regional High School and Matawan Aberdeen Middle School is now open through the **Genesis Parent Portal**.

- All [medical forms](#) must be submitted by **November 10, 2025** to be cleared for participation.
- **Students** may submit their *Medical Eligibility Form* directly to **Nurse Godowski** during their lunch periods.

**New this season:** Matawan will offer **High School Swimming** in partnership with Monmouth Regional High School (practices at Ranney High School, pay-to-play).

For full details, including start dates, registration steps, and physical form requirements, please review the [Updated Winter Sports Letter for 2025-26](#) in your email.

Questions? Contact the Athletic Office at **732-705-5346** or [athletics@marsd.org](mailto:athletics@marsd.org).

## NJSLA/NJGPA Field Test

We will be administering the [NJSLA Field Test](#) to students in **Grades 9 and 10** on **Wednesday, November 12th, Thursday, November 13th, and Friday, November 14th**.

The **NJGPA Field Test** will be given to students in **Grade 11** on **Wednesday, November 12th, and Thursday, November 13th**. All testing will take place during the regular school day.

Please note that **Grade 12** students will be on a **two-hour delayed opening schedule** on all three testing days: November 12th, 13th, and 14th. Additionally,

**Grade 11** students will also have a **two-hour delayed opening** on **Friday, November 14th**. We encourage you to review practice tests and tutorials available on the [New Jersey Assessments Portal](#) for additional information and resources.

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## Junior Prom

The [MRHS Junior Prom 2026 Contract](#) is OPEN via Google Form! All junior-level students who are planning on attending the Junior Prom on 4/23/2026 MUST complete this contract by the 11/30/2025 deadline. Any student bringing a non MRHS student MUST complete the Outside Guest Contract on paper and provide a photo ID of the guest. Tickets are \$125.00 and students can purchase their tickets during the weeks of 12/8/2025 and 12/15/2025 after school in room (402). Please reach out to the Junior Class Advisor, Dr. Naimo, with any questions or concerns: [mnaimo@marsd.org](mailto:mnaimo@marsd.org)

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## SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions)

The MRHS SADD Club (Students Against Destructive Decisions) is leading an important safety initiative to protect our students and families. The club has launched a community petition asking the Aberdeen Town Council to install flashing speed limit signs near all district schools, including along Atlantic Avenue. These signs are a proven, effective way to slow traffic and prevent accidents during arrival and dismissal.

Please take a moment to support our students' advocacy by signing and sharing the petition: <https://c.org/TMZZsRRJmM>

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## Counselor's Corner

## Colleges on Campus

The following colleges will be visiting the high school on the following dates and times. Please make sure you sign up to meet with a college representative through your [SchoolLinks](#) account.

- 10/31 - University of Rhode Island 10:35-11:15
  - 11/4 - University of Scranton 8:15-8:55
  - 11/5 - Salon Professional Academy 11:30
  - 11/21 - Georgian Court University 9:05-9:45
  - 12/9 New Jersey Institute of Technology 12:20-1:00
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## Student Volunteer Opportunities

The Community Volunteer Opportunity Google Classroom has been set up for students looking for volunteer opportunities within the MARSD community. Whether you're looking to fulfill service hours, help our elementary schools, or simply give back, you'll find a variety of listings to sign up to give of your time. Stay connected, stay involved, and together we can make a difference!

- <https://classroom.google.com/c/Nzl0MzgyMDU4NDAw>
    - Classroom code: **fcmj6wo**
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## 2025-2026 Meal Applications

As a reminder... Meal applications need to be submitted every year!!!

The 2025-2026 Meal Applications can be completed through the Genesis [Parent Portal](#). Parents who wish to complete paper applications can request a copy of the application packet from the main office.

- [Meal Application Packet](#)
  - [Paquete de solicitud de comidas](#)
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## Attendance Matters!!!

### Student Attendance Guidelines

Daily attendance is essential for the academic success and personal development of high school students. Consistent participation enhances understanding of the curriculum, fosters a sense of community, and develops important skills such as punctuality and responsibility.

Students who attend classes regularly are more likely to complete assignments, perform better academically, and build positive relationships with educators. These connections provide valuable support as students navigate their high school experience. Prioritizing daily attendance is crucial for ensuring that every student has the opportunity to thrive and succeed in their educational journey.

## MRHS Attendance Policy

To receive full credit for a high school course, a student is limited to **18 total absences** for full year courses and **9 total absences** for half year/semester based courses.

### Excused Absences Include...

- Religious observance ([N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3\(h\)](#))
- College visits (up to 3 days per school year for students in grades 11 and 12)
- "Take Our Children to Work Day"
- Participation in observance of Veterans Day (N.J.S.A. 18A: 36-13.2)
- The closure of a busing district that prevents a student from having transportation to the school
- Participation in district board of election membership activities.

### When to Keep your Child Home From School...

- A child with heavy cold symptoms, deep or uncontrollable coughing or significant lack of energy.
- If your child has a fever, keep them home for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone without the use of fever-reducing medicines.
- If your child has pain in their ears, throat, head or chest and can not comfortably participate in school activities.
- If your child is vomiting or has diarrhea, they must have neither for 24 hours before they can return to school.

### To Report an Absence

Complete the [Attendance Reporting Form](#) or Contact our Attendance Office:  
[mrhsattendance@marsd.org](mailto:mrhsattendance@marsd.org) 732-705-5200

### Not sure how many days your child has missed this year?

1. Login to the Genesis Parent Portal using your username and password
2. Click Attendance

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## Educator of the Year

The Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District is proud to announce that we will once again participate in the New Jersey Department of Education Governor's Educator of the Year Program (GEOY). This celebratory program integrates the Teacher of the Year Program with the Governor's Teacher/Educational Services Professional Recognition Program to continue to recognize our state's best teachers and educational services professionals. All nominations can be forwarded to [mrhsinfo@marsd.org](mailto:mrhsinfo@marsd.org) by **Friday, November 28, 2025**.

- [Eligibility Criteria](#)
  - [GEOY Nomination Form](#)
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## The M.O.S.T. Program (Mentoring Our Students Together)

The Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District is proud to announce the return of [The M.O.S.T. Program](#). Students in Grades 2-12 within the MARSD will have the opportunity to work with certified staff members and dedicated community members as we work to **Mentor Our Students Together**. **The M.O.S.T.** Program will be held on select Tuesday & Wednesday afternoons from 3:00pm to 6:00pm in the [Matawan Aberdeen Middle School Cafeteria](#).

- [Click Here to Register](#).
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## 2025-2026 Yearbooks on Sale Now!!!

Yearbooks can be purchased now through this link ([Jostens.com](#)). The price will increase as the year progresses. Don't wait! The same link can be used to purchase Student Recognition Ads. Order an ad by 12/14/25 to ensure that it will be included in our yearbook.

### Yearbook Photos

Any MRHS student or staff member can submit photos for the yearbook by using this [link](#). The Yearbook Club cannot guarantee that all pictures submitted will be in the yearbook. Pictures with hand gestures or from professional photographers will not be accepted or may be edited. All photos must be school appropriate and only include MRHS students and/or staff members. If you have any questions, please contact the Yearbook Advisors: Ms. Shalhoub & Mrs. Kish.

### Underclass Photo Distribution/Retakes

Underclass photos have been distributed to students. Makeup/Retake Day is on Thursday, November 13th from 9:45am-1:30pm in Room 204. Any 9th, 10th, or 11th grade student that needs to be photographed for the first time on makeup day, please bring your payment envelope if you are purchasing photos. If you paid online; you do not need to bring anything with you.

- If you are doing a retake, there is a fee of \$10.00 and you must return your first package to be photographed. You will receive a new package with your new photo delivered to the school at a later date.
  - YOU MUST SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED To schedule your appointment for makeups/retakes, please use the link below:
    - [https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/9z1sng0m/?e\\_id=36413](https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/9z1sng0m/?e_id=36413)
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## MRHS Parent-Teacher Organization

The 2025-2026 [MRHS PTO Membership Drive](#) is now open. Please help support our students and staff by joining the Matawan Regional High School Parent Teacher Association this year.

Mark your calendars.... Our first event of the year will be the annual [MRHS PTO Vendor Fair](#) on Saturday, November 22nd from 9am-3pm at the high school. Crafters and Vendors can sign up by [clicking here](#).

## Thanksgiving Pie Sale

This year MAMS and MRHS Parent Teacher Organizations are working together to bring you delicious pies for Thanksgiving. What a great way to support your school Parent Teacher Organization while getting something delicious to eat.

- [Click Here to Order your Today!!!](#)

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## MRHS Athletics

The Fall Sports Season is underway!!! Come on out to support your Huskies!!! Please check the [Athletics Schedule](#) for up to date information on the fall sports season. We are looking forward to a great fall season.

In order to provide a safe and orderly environment at all athletic events, we ask that you review and adhere to the [Spectator Code of Conduct](#). As a reminder, all guests are expected to:

- Be Respectful & Have Fun
- Signs/ Flags are not permitted in the stands, unless approved by administration
- Artificial noise makers are not permitted - (air horns, cow bells, whistles, etc.)
- Baby powder is NOT permitted as it causes significant health concerns
- Bags & Backpacks are not permitted and are subject to being searched
- There will be no admission after the third quarter. Re-entry will not be permitted.
- Students under the age of 13 should be accompanied by an adult.
- Please keep all the cheers positive, As always, profanity is NOT permitted
  - ***No Names, No Numbers, No Negativity!!!!***



**Michael Wells**

Michael is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

