



Matawan Regional High School

"Home of the Huskies"

Weekly Newsletter 2025-2026

MRHS Weekly Updates

December 22, 2025

Happy Holidays!!!

Seasons Greetings Friends, Families, Parents & Guardians,

As we head off for a well deserved and much needed winter break this week, I just wanted to take a moment to extend my heartfelt wishes for a joyous holiday season to each and every member of our Matawan Aberdeen Regional School District community.

This time of year offers us a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our achievements, express gratitude, and embrace the spirit of season. I am incredibly proud of our students and staff for the dedication and commitment demonstrated throughout the school year thus far. Their hard work, support, and collaboration have contributed to a vibrant environment within the school community.

During this holiday season, I encourage everyone to take the time to relax, recharge, and enjoy memorable moments with friends and family. We must also remember those in our community who may be facing challenges during this holiday season. Remember, a small act of kindness can go a long way and make a significant difference in someone's life.

Whether you celebrate a particular holiday or simply enjoy the break, I hope you enjoy this time in the company of loved ones. As we look forward to the new year, let us carry the spirit of the season and support into 2026. Together, we will continue to inspire and uplift each other, fostering an environment where every student can thrive.

Thank you again for your continued support. Wishing you all a joyful holiday season and a very happy new year! See you in 2026!!!

Sincerely,

Michael C. Wells

Principal

Reminder... We will be running a 1/2 day schedule on Tuesday, December 23rd. Students will be dismissed at 11:15am.



2026-2027 Course Selection

As we look toward the 2026-2027 school year, the Office of Student Personnel Services is excited to begin the scheduling process. To ensure our students are placed in courses that align with their interests and graduation requirements, we will develop the Master Schedule in two distinct phases:

1. **Phase 1:** Elective Selection: Students choose courses based on their personal interests and career goals.
2. **Phase 2:** Course Placements: Teachers provide recommendations for core academic courses based on the student's current academic performance and progress.

To begin **Phase 1:** Ms. Longo, our 9th Grade school counselor, has begun to meet with all 9th Graders during their Freshman Seminar Class to present the course catalog and select their electives. ***Please note that Ms. Longo will be entering all 9th Grade requests to the portal.***

At this time, current **Sophomores** and **Juniors** should begin to review the [2026-2027 Course Guide Book](#) to explore available options and begin to select their courses through the **Parent Portal**.

Please keep in mind that while we offer a wide variety of courses, not all electives are guaranteed to run every year. The window to select electives for next year will run from **Monday, December 22nd - Friday, January 9th**. To enter your requests:

1. Log in to the Parent Portal.
2. Navigate to the Scheduling tab on the left-hand sidebar.
3. Click on Requests.
4. Scroll to the **Electives** subject area and select Request a Course.
 1. Important: Please select alternate courses as well and list in priority order. Due to seat availability and potential scheduling conflicts, alternates are often used to ensure a full student schedule.
5. Students interested in taking a **Physical Education Elective** including Dance, Strength and Conditioning, or Unified PE may do so by Scrolling to the Physical Education/Health Subject Area and selecting the appropriate course.

Reminder... Students are only selecting their electives at this time. Placement in Core Academic Classes will be entered by their current teacher and will take place at a later date in Phase 2.

Choosing your requests carefully is essential. Once the Master Schedule is finalized, changes will only be permitted under the following specific circumstances:

1. Legal requirements (e.g., IEP, 504, or graduation requirements).
2. A documented history of conflict with a specific teacher.
3. Scheduling errors (e.g., incomplete schedule or duplicate classes).
4. Placement rubric errors indicating an improper academic level.

The Student Portal will be open for all current Sophomores and Juniors to complete course selection from December 22nd-January 9th. At which point school counselors will begin reviewing all student requests. If you have any questions regarding the selection process, please contact the Office of Student Personnel Services at 732-705-5349 or email your child's [school counselor or case manager](#) directly.

Attention Juniors: Safe Driving Orientation

Save the Date!!!!

Students Against Destructive Decisions in conjunction with our Student Assistance Coordinator will once again be sponsoring the Share the Keys, Safe Driving Orientation on Wednesday, January 28th from 7-8:15pm. Participation in the Share the Keys presentation is a requirement to park on campus. Current Juniors wishing to park on campus during the 2026-2027 school year should be in attendance.



Share the Keys



NJM Insurance Group



Safe Driving Orientation

for Students & Parents

Learn how to cut your teen's crash risk in half!

Wednesday January 28th

Matawan High School

7:00pm - 8:15pm

Share the Keys is a 60- to 90-minute research-based, data-driven orientation on:

- Understanding the GDL laws
- Supporting the GDL at home
- Being a good role model
- Increasing practice driving hours
- Controlling the keys

STK-6 (7/19)

Parents can reduce their teen's crash risk by **50%** when they set rules, offer support, and monitor their teen's driving.

"The Share the Keys program could very well be the most important assembly program attended by high school students and their parents."

*Mike Sandor,
Supervisor of Health,
Physical Education & Driver Safety, Summit High School, Summit, NJ*

[Learn more at SharetheKeys.com](https://www.sharethekeys.com)

SafeNJ App

We are proud to announce our partnership with [STOPit Solutions](#), a nationally recognized leader in school safety and wellness.


Through this partnership, everyone in our school community has access to the STOPit anonymous reporting app – a powerful tool designed to deter and promptly address instances of bullying, school violence, self-harm, and inappropriate behaviors.

With the STOPit app, users can anonymously submit tips, attach photo or video evidence, and privately message school leaders with the necessary information to help everyone involved. In addition, when a student or anyone in our school community needs immediate support, the STOPit app provides direct access to Crisis Text Line. Users can anonymously text with counselors (day or night) until they feel safe and calm.


We encourage everyone in our school community to download the STOPit app.

If you haven't already done so, we kindly urge parents and guardians to download the STOPit app and become familiar with its features. This will not only enable you to guide your children in using the app but will also demonstrate our collective commitment to the safety and wellbeing of our

whole school community. The STOPit app is available on the Apple App Store and Google Play Store.





Need support but not sure where to turn?
SafeNJ can help without anyone knowing it's you. Keep yourself and your school safe & happy.



HOW TO USE THE SafeNJ APP:

- 1. ASK FOR HELP**
Get help or anonymously report concerns for others.
- 2. CRISIS TEXT LINE**
Chat for free with a mental health counselor 24/7, privately and safely.
- 3. GET RESOURCES**
Find clothing, shelter, food, and self-help support for homework, substance abuse, dating, sexuality, and disordered eating.

Download the **SafeNJ** App Today!



The Interact Club's 2nd Annual Coat Drive

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/Nzi0MzgyMDU4NDAw>
- Classroom code: **fcmj6wo**

Matawan-Aberdeen Fire Departments - Volunteers Needed!!!

The Matawan & Aberdeen Fire Departments are looking for volunteers. If you are interested in becoming a career firefighter or a volunteer please [Click Here](#) to complete the interest survey and a member of the department will reach out to you with additional information.

Any Questions can be directed to Tim Clifton, Department Chief - Borough of Matawan Fire Department

201 Broad Street Matawan, NJ 07747

C 732-522-2291 F 732-231-5300

timcliftonfirechief@gmail.com

Aberdeen Township Office of Emergency Management - Volunteers Needed!!!

The Aberdeen Township [Office of Emergency Management \(OEM\)](#) is looking for student volunteers. If you are learning more about opportunities please [Click Here](#) and a member from the OEM Team will reach out to you with more information.

MRHS PTO - Pocketbook Bingo

Save the Date!!!!

Join us for the MRHS PTO's 2nd Annual Pocketbook Bingo on Saturday, February 28th.
Register Today!!!

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 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

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](#).

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.

Candid Photos for Yearbook

If you would like to send photos taken of activities you do with your students, trips, club activities, etc, to be included in the yearbook, please [use this form](#) to submit photos. Please, no hand gestures in the pics, otherwise they will not be used (even peace signs).

Club Photo Day

Club Photo Day will take place on Tuesday, January 13th in the auditorium for the Yearbook. Club Advisors will be giving their students passes for their assigned time. This is the only day for Club Photos.

MRHS Athletics

The Winter Athletic 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.

Hudl TV – Fan Page

All MRHS Upper Gym athletic events will now be live-streamed – **no subscription needed** – on our Hudl TV fan page:

- <https://fan.hudl.com/usa/nj/aberdeen/organization/1837/matawan-regional-high-school>

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