

## **August Counseling Update**

Hello Hellgate Knights! The first day of school is just around the corner and HHS Counselors are excited to see students for the 2018-19 School Year. For those of you new to HHS, we send out a monthly newsletter to inform parents about Counseling related events. They can sometimes be lengthy, so we hope that you are able to take the time to scan through and pick out the information that is relevant to you.

### **Transitions**

Whether your student is a Freshmen or a Senior, the transition from summer back to school can be hectic. We encourage you to attend the events highlighted below to make sure you and your student are prepared for the start of school. It's a good idea for families to create a schedule similar to school a few weeks before school begins. Make sure your student is sleeping well and eating regularly throughout the day. Encourage your student to log onto Q and print their schedule for the first day of school. We look forward to seeing you all very soon!

### **Remind**

Remind is an easy way for the Counselors to send text, email or app accessible messages to our students and parents. We are using this Remind account to send out important information and to remind students and parents of upcoming events and deadlines. Remind is easy to use. Please sign up today and encourage your student to do the same!

[Remind Class of 2019 Sign-Up](#)

[Remind Class of 2020 Sign-Up](#)

[Remind Class of 2021 Sign-Up](#)

[Remind Class of 2022 Sign-Up](#)

### **Schedule Change Request**

Please remember that Counselors cannot honor teacher requests, teacher changes or class period changes. Students were reminded to request changes in the Spring. Fall semester schedule changes will only be made for sound educational purposes, academic misplacements and elective changes for alternates that were previously chosen.

To request a schedule change, students must complete a Drop/Add form. Voicemail and email schedule change requests will not be honored. Drop/Add forms are in the front office.

Forms will be reviewed once the school year begins. Students need to attend classes listed on their schedule. We encourage students to check their schedule on Q for any updates on a regular basis. Counselors will either send a pass for the student or send an updated schedule as Drop/Add forms are processed. If a student has an unscheduled class period in their Semester 1 schedule, they may come to counseling during that class period.

**Drop/Add**

Students are able to drop and add classes without penalty during the HHS drop/add period. **The deadline for students to drop and add classes for first semester is September 6th at 3PM. The deadline for Juniors and Seniors to drop a class and add a study hall is September 13th at 3PM.** After these deadlines, students only option is to withdraw from a class and receive an F. We encourage students to utilize the drop/add period to avoid penalty.

**Fall MTDA Original Credit Courses**

The initial course request deadline for Fall 2018 MTDA Original Credit Courses is August 29th. Paperwork will be available in the new front office on the 1st floor. MTDA OC classes begin on September 7th and the final registration deadline is Sept. 7th.

**Family Resource Room: 164D**

Don't forget about The Family Resource Room! It is available for all Hellgate students and families to utilize regardless of their need - big or small. We have everything from the quick snack, forgotten deodorant or PE shoes, or the needed pencil. We can also help with laundry detergent and toilet paper, larger toiletry items needed for home, shelves of donated clothing, and a food pantry full of staples to bring home.

**Post-Secondary Opportunities and Military Visits**

Juniors and Seniors, keep an eye out on the [Counseling Events Calendar](#) for College and Military Visits. These visits are a great opportunity for students to find out more information and ask questions while meeting a representative in a small group setting. We highly encourage students to attend (as long as it doesn't heavily interrupt their academic schedule).

**SAT/ACT Test Dates**

Seniors who are interested in taking or retaking the SAT or ACT are encouraged to take the exam in early Fall. Students should check registration deadlines and register at [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) or [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).

Students in the Class of 2020 will take the ACT for Free next Spring. This date will be different than the National Test Dates below.

<u>SAT Test Dates 2018/19</u>	<u>ACT Test Dates 2018/19</u>
October 6	September 8
November 3	October 27

December 1	December 8
March 9, 2019	February 9, 2019
May 4	April 13
June 1	June 8
	July 13

### **Important Days to Remember**

**August 29th- First day of school for Freshmen only**

**August 30th- All students attend school**

**September 3rd- No School**

**September 25th- MPSOEC College Fair (Juniors and Seniors)**

**October 1st- FAFSA opens**

**October 1st- College Prep and Financial Aid Parent Night (tentative)**

**October 1st- 5th- Montana College Application Week**

**October 10th- PSAT**

**October 15th- Financial Aid Help Session 6PM-8PM**

**October 18th-19th- No School**

**Nov 6th-Nov 7th- Parent Teacher Conferences (Tentative)**

**We work hard to make our Counseling Website and Counseling Events Calendar a comprehensive source of information. Check it out here:**

**<http://www.mcpsmt.org//Domain/334>**