Montclair High School

2020 State of the School Address

“A New Decade of Opportunity!”
2020 Niche Ratings

Nationally

Top 2% Best High School Teachers in America
Top 2% Best High Schools in America
Top 3% Best High School Athletes in America
2020 Niche Ratings

New Jersey

Rated #27 out of 409 Best High School Teachers in New Jersey
Rated #35 out of 411 Best High Schools in New Jersey
Rated #61 out of 608 Best High School Athletes in New Jersey
2020 Niche Ratings

Essex County

Rated #4 out of 43 Best High School Teachers in Essex County

Rated #4 out of 43 Best High Schools in Essex County

Rated #3 out of 68 Best High School Athletes in Essex County
2020 Discipline Statistics

September 2018-February 2019 - 40 infractions
September 2019-February 2020 - 28 infractions
30% decrease
Attendance

Number of Chronically Absent Students

*Chronic absence is defined as missing 10% or greater of the total number of days enrolled during the school year for any reason.

2016-17 294
2017-18 306
2018-19 207
3 Year Attendance Rates

- 2016-17: 93.6%
- 2017-18: 93.5%
- 2018-19: 94.1%
MHS Connections
MHS Connections allows students to connect curriculum to careers by participating in electives providing specialized courses in a particular area of study. This approach to learning will create opportunities for students to complete a particular Connection in one of eight areas. This optional program will give interested students the chance to demonstrate commitment to an area of study in greater depth than the traditional program.
What Connections Offer

- Focus in specific areas of study.
- Allow for a variety of electives while providing a themed approach.
- Demonstrate a commitment to an interest area.
- Exhibit quality of depth of knowledge in selected Connection.
5 Connections Available to MHS Students

- Business
- Visual and Performing Arts
- Health /Social Services
- Writing/Publishing
- International Perspectives
Requirements

- Complete a minimum of six courses within the Connection.
- Complete a minimum of 30 credits, including the six Connection courses.
- Connections may include a required course/experience (structured learning experience).
- Senior Connection Projects will be developed by individual students. This project will encompass knowledge for the specified Connection courses through Option 2.
- Students must take two high level courses in the Connection.
- Students must maintain a grade of C or higher in their Connection courses.
- Successful enrollment and completion of the Connection will be indicated on students’ transcripts in their senior year.
MHS Twilight Program
What is Twilight?

This alternative education program will offer a different pathway to recover credit for students.

**Grade Replacement:** Students who successfully complete a cycle of Twilight will earn the ability to replace their failing grade from Q1 or Q2 with a grade of 70.

**Attendance Recovery:** Students attending the Twilight Program for Attendance Recovery will earn the ability to remove up to 15 unexcused absences from their record in a particular course.
Eligibility

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Failing grade in Q1 or Q2
2. Loss of Credit in S1 courses, or 17-30 absences in a full year course
Eligible Courses: All courses in the following academic departments are eligible.

- Science
- Social Studies
- Mathematics
- English
- Physical Education
1. Offering classes Tuesday-Thursday from 2:45pm - 4:45pm (3 hours per week) 5 weeks or a total of 15 hours per class.
   1. Students can take 2 courses per cycle: Each course will be 1 hour per day.
Requirments

1. **Attendance**
   - Students are required to attend 14 out of 15 sessions.
   - Students will receive 1 class attendance credit for each session in the cycle. The student will receive 15 hours upon the completion of the cycle.
Requirements

Coursework

- Students will experience a hybrid approach where teachers deliver content and students complete a number of assessments online and created by the teacher.

- If a student has failed a marking period, upon the successful completion of the cycle, they will receive a “70” in the gradebook.

- If a student currently has a “passing grade” in the course, upon successful completion of the course, their grade will stand in the gradebook.
MADE
MHS has developed a partnership with Montclair State University, where seniors can earn dual credit through college courses taken at MSU. Seniors can earn 12 college credits before graduating high school. Selection will be based upon the following:

- GPA: minimum 3.7
- Application
- Interview
- Review of attendance and disciplinary records
Student Commitment

- Enroll in 4 morning courses at Montclair High School
- Enroll in 4 courses at Montclair State University (2 Fall semester classes and 2 Spring semester)
- Provide their own transportation to and from MSU
- Cover the cost of the discounted tuition, parking, and books
- Students in the MADE program will be dismissed from MHS at 10:46am. Students must enroll in courses at MSU scheduled at 11:00 AM or later.
Cost Reduction

In this pilot year of the MADE Program, students can earn 12 college credits at a significantly reduced rate.

- Montclair State University will reduce the cost per credit by 25%.
- Montclair School District will reduce the cost per credit depending upon enrollment.
- Students approved for Free/Reduced lunch will receive an additional reduction.
Social Media Platforms
Mountie Talks
MountieTalk Topics

Vaping
Drug Abuse
CyberBullying
Computing Your World
I AM THE VICTOR! AntiBullying Campaign
Murph's Elite/ Overcoming Opioid Addiction
Anti-Bullying Campaign
Opioid Epidemic/ Abuse
Mindfulness
Gaming and Technology Addiction

Mental Health
Studying Abroad using the Interdisciplinary Approach
The Writer's Approach
School Anxiety and Refusal
Gaming and Tech Addiction
Preventing Substance Abuse
Logged Off
Positive Body Image
Combating Depression/ Signs
Greif Around the Holidays/ Checking Your Own
Dual Enrollments Partnerships
Anticipated Partnerships for 2020/2021

Essex County Community College
Syracuse University
Fairleigh Dickinson
Stockton University
New Jersey Institute of Technology
Bergen County Community College
Student Appeals Committee
The Grade Floor Concept
Expansion of Course Selections
Physical Education Electives
Selections

Team Sports
Cardiovascular Endurance
Yoga and Meditation
Dance
Multicultural Activities
Strength & Conditioning
Career and Technical Education
CTE

Student Certification.

Reimagining course selections and content.
Social Emotional Learning
Areas of Concern for MHS

- Anxiety/Depression
- Appropriate Social Relationships
- Dating
- Substance Abuse Awareness
- Conflict Resolution
- School Phobia
- College Admission Process
Plans to Address MHS Concerns

- Restorative Justice
- Living Room
- MHS 101
- Counseling Sessions
- Group Counseling
- Outside Programing
- Mountie Talks
Restorative Justice
Restorative Justice (RJ) Expectations

- Creating just and equitable learning environments.
- Nurturing healthy relationships.
- Repairing harm and transforming conflict.
The Living Room
Ongoing rotation of school counselors, SAC’s and therapist.

De-escalation space.

Group environment.

Safe space.
Learning Center for Students
Montclair High School is proud to introduce the Learning Center for Students. The LCS is located across the hall from the main office in the main building (formerly known as the Athletic Office). Montclair High School Office of Student Services is offering tutoring for all students to attend without making an appointment Monday-Friday 10:45am-11:45am and 2:45pm – 3:45pm. The LCS will also be available for students during off hours by appointment only.
MHS 101
School Safety
Marching Band
MHS Arts
Arts Proposals

Radio Station

Podcast Lab

Switchbox

Broadcasting Program

Moving into the Digital Age

Current Technical Equipment

New Instruments
Commitment to Reutilization of Space
Space

Living Room
Education Commons-The Pit
School Counseling Suite
MHS Drop In Center

RJ Room
MHS Drop In Tech Center
Reimagining the LGI
Auditorium
Education Commons
Education Commons

A collaborative work space for making, learning, exploring and sharing that uses high tech to no tech tools. To provide hands on learning, help with critical thinking skills and even boost self-confidence.
Family and Community Partnerships

**Vision**

To support the mission and vision of MHS

To provide a voice for families.

To support staff with professional development opportunities.

To build partnerships with in the community.

To share community resources and intellectual knowledge.
Reorganization
Commitment to Supervisors
Furniture
Current Arrangement

Furniture in classrooms are from the 1960s to the present.

Traditional multi-fixed desk and chair.

Uneven legs on tables and chairs.

Damaged supports and distressed table tops.

NOT CONducive FOR COLLABORATIVE LEARNING.
Diamond
Diamond
Diamond
Diamond
Diamond
Auditorium
Current State
Current State
New Seating