NOTE TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS:

We hope this guide will help you navigate your high school years with greater confidence and a clearer understanding of all the choices that are available to you at Mohonasen.

Mohonasen High School offers students a growing number of choices in coursework and extracurricular activities. Read up on them so you know what's available and how to get involved.

Hang on to this guide and you'll probably find yourself coming back to it as questions arise. If we left something out that would be useful for students or parents to know, please let us know so we can include it in future handbooks.

For a complete alphabetical listing of the contents of this guide, consult the Index on page 46. Please keep in mind that the information contained in this guide will, over time, be subject to change.

Welcome to Mohonasen High School!

Table of Contents

Key Contacts ................................................................. 4
About Our High School .................................................... 5
Mohon By the Numbers .................................................... 5
Partnerships & Opportunities ........................................... 6
Mohonasen 1+1 Program ................................................... 7
College-Prep Timeline .................................................... 8
College Credit Opportunities & NCAA Eligibility ................ 10
Planning Your Future Chart ............................................. 11
A Mohon Education Means... ........................................... 12
Daily Schedule ............................................................... 13
High School Map ........................................................... 14
Academics ...................................................................... 15
Mo-Tech ....................................................................... 28
Extracurricular Activities ................................................ 30
This & That ................................................................. 35
Other Services ............................................................. 41
Food Service Program .................................................... 41
Health Services ............................................................. 42
Parent Organizations ..................................................... 42
Students With Disabilities .............................................. 43
Transportation Services .................................................. 45
Index (alphabetical) ......................................................... 46
key contacts

District administrators
Superintendent of Schools
Shannon Shine
518-356-8200

Asst. Superintendent for Business
Christopher Ruberti
518-356-8210

Asst. Supt. Curriculum & Instruction
Laurel Logan-King
518-356-8205

Director for Spec. Ed/Alt. Ed
Karla Empie: 518-356-8221

Academic Admin. Science/Tech.
Matthew Hubbell
518-356-8254

Academic Admin for APPR, Data, Reporting, Mentoring, Instr. Ldrs
Deborah Kavanagh-Farnan
518-356-8256

Tasha Anderson
518-356-8253

Other key contacts:

Aquatics Program
Kate Streeter, Supervisor
518-356-8240

Buildings & Grounds/Facilities
Joseph Mayo, Director
518-356-8228

Business Department
Tracey Freemantle, Supervisor & District Treasurer
518-356-8235

Continuing Education
Patricia Hopkins, Coordinator
518-356-8303

Communications
Alissa Scott, Coordinator
518-356-8250

Food Service Program
Kimberly Gagnon, Supervisor
518-356-8225

PE, Athletics & Health Education
Dave Austin, Director
518-356-8275

School Safety & Security
518-356-8355

Transportation Department
Randy Jerreld, Director
518-356-8260

Principal
Craig Chandler
518-356-8314

Assistant Principals
Daniella DeLuca
518-356-8301
Thomas O’Connor
518-356-8302

Administrator, CAT Building
Bill Vacca
518-356-8461

Dean of Students
Meredith Eberz
518-356-8318
Autumn Wallace

Attendance Office
Cindy Clough
518-356-8315

Counseling & Career Center
518-356-8322

Counselors:
• Danielle Gaudio
• Amy Huszar
• Rebecca Pauley
• Duane Wood

School Librarian
Lisa Backman
518-356-8322

School Nurse
Joanna Springer
518-356-8331

School Psychologist
Elizabeth Young
518-356-8412

School Resource Officer
Officer Michael Rumbaugh
518-356-8214

School Social Worker
Elizabeth Castillo-Haynesworth
518-356-8443

Social Studies
Kathleen Sprague
518-356-8347
Margaret Sutton
518-356-8335

Student Assistance Counselor
Diane Blinn
518-356-8313

HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY BY DEPARTMENT

Art
Christina Mathieu
Allison Vaughn
Michael York

Business
Susan Braiman

English
Richard Burega
Kathleen Derochie
Tara Halliday
Jeff Hayes
Marc Sullivan
Kristen Vachon
Marvin Veeder

Foreign Language
Heather Chikman
Maureen Geagan
Patrick Keegan
Maria Pacheco
Tricia Saullo

Family & Consumer Science
Kathleen Sacks
Amy Stott

Health
Robert Stranahan

Mathematics
Stephanie Bruhn
Deborah Capullo
Maureen Conway
Meredith Eberz
Robert Higgins
Brett Hilko
Danielle Hunt
Greg Massaroni
Karen Smith

Music
Nicole Gabriel
Daniel Jones
Kimberly Kondenar
Gail Sparlin

Physical Education
Jim Huggins
Ray Kearney
Nikki Steele
Lori Moore

Science
Dawn Aulita
Adam Barr
Katie Bartone
William Clayton
Brian Galati
Jennifer Gribben

Special Education
Stephanie Arnold
Martha Mallon
Ben Pierson
Katie Pierson
Erica Restifo
Jodi Scalise
Susan Petrosino

Technology
Nicole Battisti
Robert Buehler
George Reluzco
John Winters
ACADEMICS

Mohonasen High School offers 32 College in the High School classes from SCCC as well as several others from colleges in the region. In addition, Mohonasen offers six Advanced Placement (AP) classes and articulation agreements for two classes with SCCC.

High School math students participate each year in Math Madness at Bradt Primary School, a program that pairs younger students with older role models who share fun math activities.

Mohonasen High School seniors continued a tradition in June when they took a walk down the hallways of their former schools to say hello to former teachers and inspire future generations of Mohonasen graduates. This symbolic event serves as an opportunity to show the younger students what their hard work will one day bring.

MUSIC & ART

Each year, upwards of 100 students are accepted into prestigious county and state music festivals.

The Mohonasen High School a cappella group For Good Measure earned a spot at the Northeast semifinals of the International Championship of High School A Cappella and won a special award for best choreography.

For the third year in a row, the Varsity Color Guard qualified to compete for in the Winter Guard International World Championships in Dayton, Ohio.

The work of more than two dozen art students was selected to be featured in prestigious art shows and festivals in the region, some of which were juried.

The Mohon Masque Theatre Group has a reputation for outstanding performances and plays to packed houses year after year.

ATHLETICS

Mohonasen athletes accomplished a great deal during 2018-19. Seven teams captured Colonial Council championships, including girls volleyball, girls cross country, girls indoor track and field, girls bowling, girls outdoor track and field, softball and baseball. The girls bowling team and the girls indoor track team each captured sectional championships as well. The Mohonasen unified basketball team won the division championship.

Students distinguished themselves on the field and in the classroom. Individual scholar athletes numbered 69 in the fall; 45 in the winter; and, 55 in the spring.

A number of teams were recognized as Scholar Athlete teams in 2018-19. Girls teams included: cross country, swimming and diving, tennis, indoor track and field, softball, lacrosse and outdoor track and field. Boys teams included: swimming and diving and lacrosse.

Mohonasen High School students can choose from 18 different sports teams to join.

Roughly 50 percent of Mohonasen High School students participate in at least one sport.

CTE

Adding to the popular technology courses at CAT, including Mechatronics and Nanotechnology, will be the addition of a new Engineering Technology program in 2019-20. The BOCES CTE course will prepare students for entry-level work as clean room technicians and provide the skills for many careers in nanotech and semiconductor chip fabrication.

A total of 9 Mohonasen students were honored by Capital Region BOCES Career and Technical School (CTE) for excellence in their fields.

Four Mohonasen students were among those Capital Region Career and Technical School (CTE) students who were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) in May.

COMMUNITY

Mohonasen High School students and faculty members taught computer skills to members of the Rotterdam Senior Citizens Association. Topics addressed included online safety, cybersecurity, Google tools and tablet devices. High school students shared tips and tricks and provided one-on-one troubleshooting for the seniors’ personal devices.
Mohonasen High School offers a variety of academic opportunities to meet the needs of a diverse population. The new Center for Advanced Technology at Mohonasen is a 53,000 square foot learning facility that houses a variety of modern, high-tech labs and classrooms that offer learning experiences in “real world” work environments. Through a unique partnership between Mohonasen, Capital Region BOCES and local institutions of higher education, classes will be offered to high school, college and workforce development students.

Courses offered at the Center:
- Principles in Engineering
- Engineering Design and Development
- Aerospace Engineering
- Computer Integrated Manufacturing
- Robotics
- Manufacturing Systems I and II
- Construction and Production System I and II
- Basic Electricity
- Nanotechnology and Nanotechnology II
- Alternative Energy
- Computer Science
- Foundation in Medicine, Health and Wellness
- Theater I and II
- Grade 10-12 Technology Courses
- Mechatronics

Several core English classes will also be held at the CAT building this year, including English 9 Honors and English 11, as well as multiple music electives.

CTE courses prepare students for careers in:
- Automotive
- Business
- Construction & Fabrication
- Criminal Justice
- Environment
- Health
- Law
- Service Industry
- Technical
- Theater

Other programs include:
- Career Studies programs for students with individualized education plans
- Adult Education programs

For a full list of courses, see page 27 or visit www.capregboces.org

CTE Experiences
- “I was able to access Advanced Placement classes not available in my home school and better prepare myself for college,” 2016 New Visions: Law & Government graduate Alex Wilgocki of Mohonasen told an aid for Sen. George Amedore during legislative meetings last spring.
- “Attending CTE gave me a goal, a drive to push myself. Before I came here to CTE I was kind of a slacker,” said 2012 Mohonasen graduate Brandon Day, a culinary specialist in the U.S. Navy. “At CTE I learned skills that I felt comfortable doing and enjoy. … I have more knowledge and skills from CTE than I get to use in the Navy, but I do have opportunities to experiment.”
Mohonasen offers a number of options for students to earn college credit while still attending high school. One of those programs is 1 + 1, a program run in conjunction with Schenectady County Community College (SCCC) that allows a dual enrollment in three areas of study. Through 1 + 1, students work toward their high school diploma while at the same time earning an entire year of college credits in an area of interest. Students in the 1 + 1 program could then enter SCCC to complete an associate’s degree in one year or directly transfer the courses to another college or university. To learn more about Mohonasen’s 1 + 1 program, please see your school counselor.

### 11th grade Credits

| Humanities or Social Science Elective | 3 |
| Chemistry I & II, Chem Honors | 8 |
| Humanities or Social Science Elective | 3 |
| **TOTAL CREDITS** | **14** |

### 12th grade Credits

| English 123 - College Composition | 3 |
| English 124 - Literature & Writing | 3 |
| Intro to Material Science | 3 |
| Intro to Nanoscale Materials | 4 |
| Calculus I and II | 8 |
| **TOTAL CREDITS** | **20** |

Minimum Credit Hours required for degree: 64

Mohonasen offers the following courses that would satisfy the respective requirement:

**Humanities Electives - Must be a Language**
- French 3, 4, 5
- Spanish 3, 4, 5

**Social Science Electives: Must be American History, Western Civilization or Other World History**
- AP US History: American History to 1877
- AP US History: American History since 1877
- AP World History - Depends on score

### 11th grade Credits

| Restricted Social Science Elective | 3 |
| Restricted Social Science Elective | 3 |
| Science Elective | 3-4 |
| Language other than English | 3 |
| **TOTAL CREDITS** | **15-17** |

### 12th grade Credits

| General Elective | 3 |
| English 124 - Literature & Writing | 3 |
| English 123 - College Composition | 3 |
| MAT 145 or higher in mathematics | 3-4 |
| Language other than English (or Humanities/Art) | 3 |
| **TOTAL CREDITS** | **15-16** |

Minimum Credit Hours required for degree: 64

Mohonasen offers the following courses that would satisfy the respective requirement:

**Language/Humanities Electives**
- French 3, 4, 5
- Spanish 3, 4, 5

**Restricted Social Science Electives: Must be American History, Western Civilization or Other World History**
- AP US History: American History to 1877
- AP US History: American History since 1877
- AP World History - Depends on score

**Science Electives**
- Environmental Studies
- AP Biology
- Math 145 or higher
- Topics in Math
- Statistics
- Pre-Calc
- Calc I & II
- Chemistry Honors
- Nanotechnology

**Math or Lab Science Electives**
- Statistics
- Pre-Calculus
- AP Biology

**Mathematics Electives**
- Introduction to Drawing
- AP Math - Depends on score

**Liberal Arts Electives**
- AP English

**Humanities Elective**
- AP English

**Mathematics Elective**
- AP English

**Liberal Arts Elective**
- AP English

**Social Science Elective**
- AP English

** Restricted Elective**
- AP English

| **TOTAL CREDITS** | **15-16** |
GRADE NINE

Welcome to high school! Ninth grade is a time for exploration, so it’s important to do just that. Join clubs, sports and other school activities. Volunteer! How will you know what you’re good at or what interests you if you don’t try new things?

It’s also important to make sure you get off to a strong start in all your courses! Students who have to repeat classes close off their options and choices in coursework/internships, etc. later down the road.

What to look for this year:

- School counselors schedule personal conferences with each 9th grader during March and April to develop a high school “game plan” and finalize courses for 10th grade. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend. Students will be introduced to Naviance Student (http://student.naviance.com/mohonasen) at this time. (See page 9)

- December-January: Course Registration Process (See page 10)

GRADE TEN

Things to be on the lookout for this year include:

- October-November: All sophomores will be scheduled out of a study hall to take an Interest Assessment on Naviance, a program that will help identify possible careers of interest, as well as work values.

- October: Math accelerated sophomores are encouraged to take the PSAT, a pre-test for the SAT.

- Late Fall/Winter: Course Registration Process (See page 18)

- November, December & January: Counselors meet with each student for their annual review. At this time course selections for 11th grade are discussed, academic standing is reviewed and continued career exploration is encouraged. Also in April, highly motivated and/or accelerated students may want to sign up for the SAT Subject Tests.

- June: Students who have signed up to do so, take the SAT Subject Tests.

GRADE ELEVEN

- August-September: Sign up for and take the PSAT – a pretest for the SAT. Access Naviance Student to begin or continue your college search.

- Late Fall/Winter: Course Registration Process (See page 18), October: All college-bound students are encouraged to take PSAT.

- January-February: Parents and students attend College Information Night for Juniors (The Search Process). A panel of local college admissions counselors, a parent and student are the featured speakers. Check the district calendar for the date and time.

- January-March: Counselors meet with every junior to do an annual review. Discussions focus on academic progress, PSAT scores, course selections for grade 12, and college and career planning using Naviance Student.

- March-April: Students should sign up for the SAT, SAT Subject Tests and ACT exams.

- April/May: Students should attend the College Fair at Hudson Valley Community College (more than 200 colleges participate).

- May-June: Students take SAT, SAT Subject Tests, ACT exams.

- June-August: Students make plans to visit colleges over the summer. Students should call for an appointment first to avoid visiting a campus when it may be closed or between semesters. An interview is advisable. Students should also be registering for SAT, SAT Subject Tests or ACT Exams that they would like to retake in the fall.

GRADE TWELVE

Congratulations! You’re almost there! Your senior year will be an exciting one, focusing on making a smooth transition to college, the military or directly into the workplace.

- September-October: Each senior meets individually with his or her counselor to review graduation and course requirements, diploma options and post-high school plans. A college application timeline is formalized in this meeting. Retake SAT, SAT Subject Tests or ACT Exams.

- September-October: Students and parents attend College Application Kick Start, presented by the high school counselors. Check the calendar for the date and time. Students should be requesting recommendations from teachers, counselors and other relevant adults. Seniors should also begin checking in regularly at
the Naviance Student website to look for scholarship applications.

- **September-November:** Seniors sign up on Naviance Student for and attend meetings with college admissions representatives who visit Mohonasen.

- **October:** Seniors attend a college essay writing workshop. Check the calendar for date and time. Check to see if the schools students are applying to require a CSS financial Form.

- **October/November:** Bring your financial documents and attend the high school's workshop on Filling out the FAFSA — the financial aid application form that colleges use as their formula for determining financial aid. Trained financial professionals from HESC and local colleges will walk you through completing your FAFSA and you will walk out with your FAFSA finished. Also this month, continue the application process for college as needed, and keep checking for scholarship applications online at Naviance Student.

- **November:** College applications should be submitted this month. SAT and/or ACT scores must be sent directly from the test center. And keep checking for those scholarship applications this month! Request transcripts through Naviance Student and submit a transcript request form for each college to your school counselor to ensure that transcripts and other important documents are submitted in a timely fashion.

- **December:** Make sure to complete and submit any application with a January 1 deadline. This includes requesting all transcripts and recommendations at least two weeks prior to the holiday vacation. Check the latest college scholarship applications at Naviance Student and www.fastweb.com.

- **October-March:** If you didn't attend the FAFSA workshop, submit your FAFSA form no earlier than Oct. 1 and no later than March 1.

- **January-March:** Review and return the Student Aid Report (SAR). This form is sometimes mailed/e-mailed to students to clarify information provided on the FAFSA. Follow directions carefully and return as quickly as possible.

- **March:** Continue checking the Counseling and Career Center and the Naviance website for scholarship applications. Wait for responses to college applications.

- **April:** Compare the financial aid packages that will begin arriving in the mail. It’s time to select the college you’re going to attend! You’ll need to send in a deposit to the college you’ve chosen — no later than May 1.

- **April-May:** Be sure to complete your Excelsior Scholarship application if parents meet financial qualifiers and you are attending a New York state college.

- **June:** Congratulations, graduate! You’re on your way!

## COLLEGE/CAREER SEARCH WEBSITES

### What you need to know about NAVIANCE STUDENT

Naviance Student is a web-based service designed especially for students and parents. Naviance Student is a comprehensive website that parents and their children can use for help in making decisions about courses, colleges and careers. This is a service that our office uses to track and analyze data about career and college plans, so it provides up-to-date information that is specific to our school.

Here is a sample of Naviance Student activities:

- Game Plan Survey
- Create a resume
- Complete an Interest Profiler & Personality Assessment
- Learn about the college application process
- Start a college search
- Develop a prospective college list
- Access scholarship search engines and print scholarship applications; more than 100 national scholarships are available
- Request transcripts for college applications
- Request teacher and counselor recommendations
- Maintain journal entries
- Complete school-developed surveys
- Compare colleges
- Link to selected third-party resources College Board, Financial Aid, NCAA, Careers, College searches, etc.
- Track deadlines
- View guidance news bulletins

To access Naviance Student, follow the instructions below.

- http://student.naviance.com/mohonasen
- Student accounts:
  - Log in with school user name and the password: notebook
  - You can change your password once logged in
  - Seniors need to complete a Senior Survey/Final Transcript Request in May through this program. Also be sure to bookmark the website for future reference.

## COLLEGE BOARD ONLINE (www.collegeboard.org)

Click on “college search” and you’ll be connected with a database of more than 3,500 two- and four-year colleges. Choose from among 800 features to create a profile of your ideal college and, in seconds, get a list of the colleges that fit the bill.

## COLLEGE SEARCH MADE SIMPLE (www.cappex.com)

The site helps make solid college matches for you and lets you know your chances of getting accepted.
There are two methods by which Mohonasen students can earn college credit for courses taken right at our high school.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT**
These are courses that typically follow a nationally standardized curriculum and culminate in an Advanced Placement exam (AP), for which a fee is charged. AP courses offered at Mohonasen are:
- AP Biology
- AP Calculus; BC Calculus
- AP English: Literature
- AP Music Theory
- AP US History
- AP World History

**AGREEMENTS WITH SPECIFIC COLLEGES**
Mohonasen High School also has agreements with several colleges that will grant credit hours for specific courses we offer since our course is essentially equivalent to theirs. Students successfully completing the Mohonasen course and paying tuition will have a number of college credit hours to add to their resumé. Many times other colleges will accept these credits. For more details, see your school counselor and the course descriptions for each course. Mohonasen has an agreement with Schenectady County Community College (SCCC) at a cost of $174 per 3-credit class:
- Advanced Drawing
- AP Biology
- Chemistry Honors (CHM121 and CHM122)
- College Composition
- Intro to Literature
- Environmental Studies
- French 4
- French 5
- Foundations in Medicine, Health & Wellness
- AP US History (HIS 227 and HIS 229)
- AP World History C
- Pre-Calculus
- Topics in Math
- Statistics
- AP Calculus (MAT 180 and MAT 181)
- Music Theory
- Nanotechnology and Nanotechnology II

**Important!** Colleges vary widely on the types of credit they grant and the grade or score required for such credit. For example, some accept a score of 3 on an AP exam, while others require a 4 or 5. For more information, seek details from the college you wish to attend.

**English**
- College Composition
- English 10
- English 10 AIS
- English 10 Honors
- English 11
- English 11 AIS
- English 11 Honors
- English 12
- English 9
- English 9 AIS
- English 9 Honors
- English 9/Interdisciplinary
- AP English
- Film as Literature
- Introduction to Literature
- Public Speaking

**Social Science**
- Civil War
- Economics
- Economics Honors
- Global History and Geography 9
- Global History and Geography 9 AIS
- Global History and Geography 9 Honors
- Global History and Geography 9/Interdisciplinary
- Global History and Geography 10
- Global History and Geography 10 AIS
- Holocaust
- Participation in Gov’t
- Participation in Gov’t Honors
- US Gov’t and Politics/AP
- US History & Government
- US History & Gov’t AIS
- AP US History
- AP World History

**Mathematics**
- AP Calculus
- Common Core Algebra 2 Part 1
- Common Core Geometry
- Common Core Regents Algebra 1
- Common Core Regents Algebra 1 AIS Part 1
- Common Core Regents Algebra 2 Part 2
- Common Core Regents Algebra 2 with Lab
- Common Core Regents Geometry
- Finite Math
- Pre-Calculus
- Statistics

**Natural/Physical Science**
- Alternative Energy Systems
- Anatomy/Physiology
- AP Biology
- Chemistry Honors
- Earth Science
- Earth Science Honors
- Environmental Studies
- Nanotechnology

**Additional Core Courses**
- French 1
- French 2
- French 3
- French 4
- French 5
- Spanish 1
- Spanish 2
- Spanish 3
- Spanish 4
- Spanish 5
This form is provided for you and your family to use as you plan your program for next year.

| Pupil’s Name:                                                                 | ______________________________________________________________________ |
| Class of ___________________ (Graduation Year)                                                                                       |
| Type of Diploma Desired: ___________________________________________________________________________________________________ |
| Career & College Goals: ______________________________________________________________________________________________________ |

**FOUR-YEAR PLANNING WORKSHEET**

6.5 credits required in grades 9, 10, 11
5.5 credits required in grade 12
22.5 minimum credits to graduate

### 9TH GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CREDITS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global History &amp; Geography 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phys. Ed. 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music/Art</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total credits: ______________________

### 10TH GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CREDITS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global History &amp; Geography 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phys. Ed. 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total credits: ______________________

### 11TH GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CREDITS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English 11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US History</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phys. Ed. 11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total credits: ______________________

### 12TH GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CREDITS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics/Government</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phys. Ed. 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total credits: ______________________
Mohonasen really does look out for students while offering all the tools needed to be successful in your chosen path and giving you the opportunity to enjoy the high school experience.

Matthew Hogan

My Mohonasen education, especially the musical opportunities and classroom internship programs offered, played a large role in assisting me select the career path I wanted to take in life.

Justin Godlewski

The technology courses I took in high school prepared me for college and the manufacturing industry as a machinist. They also helped me find a field I love working in every day by exposing me to hands-on environments.

Kody Skeals

I liked attending Mohonasen High School because of my teacher Mrs. Restifo and all the things she taught me. I also had an opportunity to work at several internships. I would recommend someone to Mohonasen High School because of all the academics and the environment.

Phoebe Hester

The Mohonasen pre-engineering curriculum provided me a noticeable advantage over other first-year college students. Being exposed to different sectors of engineering with all the available electives gave me a better idea of what kind of engineer I wanted to be.

Steve Delmonaco

Mohonasen students are fortunate to be surrounded by such knowledgeable and dedicated teachers. Pick their brains and ask as many questions as you can. They know so much more than they’re able to share with you in a single school year.

Matthew Hogan
Mohonasen High School Block Schedule

Mohonasen High School is built on 80-minute blocks of time with the flexibility of conducting two 38-minute periods within each block. What follows are some key things to know about Mohonasen High School’s block schedule:

**THE SCHEDULE FOLLOWS AN ALTERNATING SIX-DAY CYCLE:** Morning announcements will remind students if it is an A, B, C, D, E or F day. There will also be notices posted around the school as well as on the Mohonasen website.

**ALL STUDENTS WILL HAVE A MIXTURE OF 80- AND 38-MINUTE PERIODS EVERY DAY.** While at first it may sound confusing, this combination of classes actually allows for more flexibility in instructional time. The information below should help clarify.

**HOMEROOM IS SEPARATE FROM THE STUDENT’S REGULAR CLASSES** and takes place from 7:38-7:45 a.m. daily. Students must be in homeroom by 7:38 a.m., or they are considered tardy to school.

BE ON TIME TO CLASS! There are six minutes between the end of one block and the start of another. There are only four minutes between the 38-minute classes. Since there are fewer students passing during these times within the block, students should easily be able to get from one class to another on time. In some cases you may not have time to stop at your locker, so plan accordingly. If you are detained by a teacher, ask for a pass. Otherwise, if you’re not in your class by the time the bell rings, you’re tardy. This includes homeroom!

**ABOUT ACTIVITY PERIOD:** Activity period is an important part of the school day at Mohonasen. All faculty are available Tuesday through Friday during these periods. This is a designated time for:

- Extra academic help, when needed, with teachers.
- Scheduled meetings of school clubs, and extracurricular activities.
- Homework, particularly for athletes.
- Detention, if assigned.
- Parent-teacher conferences.

Buses are available after activity period Tuesday-Thursday.

**DAILY SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Homeroom</th>
<th>HR</th>
<th>7:38-7:45</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Block 1-2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7:51-8:29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8:33-9:11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Block 3-4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9:17-9:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9:59-10:37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Block 5-6-7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10:43-11:21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11:25-12:03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12:07-12:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Block 8-9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12:51-1:29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1:33-2:11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Period</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2:20-2:50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR SCHEDULE? During the first few days of school your teachers will spend time reviewing the schedule with you. Don’t be afraid to ask a teacher, a friend or stop down to the Counseling and Career Center for help in deciphering your schedule.

---

**Classes that are 80 minutes long and meet ACE or BDF days:**
- Social Studies
- Math
- Foreign Language
- Technology
- Family/Cons. Science
- English
- Choir
- Science
- Art
- Business
- Health
- Music Theory

**Classes that are 38-minutes long and meet every day:**
- Band, Orchestra
- Lunch
- Study Hall
- Phys. Ed.
- Labs (Academic Intervention Services, Math and Science)

**Classes that are 38 minutes and meet on a rotating basis:**
- Study Hall
- Phys. Ed.
- Labs

**Block 1-2, 3-4 AND 8-9** are each comprised of 80 minutes of instructional time. Again, depending upon a student’s particular schedule, some students will remain in one class for 80 minutes, while others may be scheduled for two 38-minute classes within the block.

- Block 1-2 runs from 7:51 to 9:11 a.m.
- Block 3-4 runs from 9:17 to 10:37 a.m.
- Block 8-9 runs from 12:51 to 2:11 p.m.

**Block 5-6-7** is 122 minutes long and is split into three 38-minute periods. It runs from 10:43 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. daily. All students will eat lunch during one of these 38-minute periods. During the remainder of the time, students will either have an 80-minute class, or two 38-minute classes depending upon individual schedules.
ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

In order for students to be eligible to participate in or attend certain extracurricular activities and events, they must maintain specific academic standards in the courses they are taking. Currently, participation in athletics, formal dances, as well as various senior privileges are governed by academic standards. While the specific guidelines for each activity vary, the intent is to reinforce the importance of academic effort and performance and ensure that all students move successfully through high school. For specific policies and guidelines, please visit www.mohonasen.org or call the high school main office.

ACADEMIC INTERVENTION SERVICES (AIS)

The faculty and staff at the high school are committed to helping all students succeed in challenging course work. A wide range of Academic Intervention Services are provided to students who are deemed to be at-risk of not meeting the Regents standards by graduation.

At the high school, AIS includes: grade-level instructional teams; academic intervention labs; Regents-prep review classes; and academic monitoring.

Counselors and social workers are also available to help at-risk students deal with peripheral issues that may be getting in the way of their school success. Of course, students can always stay after school to work with teachers during activity period from 2:20-2:50 p.m., Tuesdays-Fridays.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COURSES

Mohonasen offers Advanced Placement (AP) courses in:

- Biology
- US History
- Music Theory
- Calculus
- World History
- English Literature

AP courses expose students to college-level coursework while still in high school. The subject matter is very challenging and students who take these courses typically say it makes for a smoother transition to college.

Another benefit to taking AP classes is that students can earn college credit for these courses – IF they score a 3 or better on the final AP exam. (Some colleges require a higher score.)

Most AP classes at Mohonasen require certain prerequisites and/or grade point averages, so check with your counselor for details. All AP courses are weighted by a factor of 1.05. For more on course weighting, visit page 15.

While there is no fee for the courses, the AP exams typically cost about $90. (Students enrolled in the courses are encouraged to register for the AP exam in the fall and take the exams in May.)

* Second year students in Music Theory have the opportunity to take the AP exam.

— Continued on next page

Center for Advanced Technology Map
ATTENDANCE, ABSENCES & TARDINESS

As standards are raised, students really can’t afford to miss school. Even the best students will quickly fall behind when attendance drops or there is chronic tardiness.

Our attendance policy focuses on getting all students to school punctually and attending their classes with consistency. The policy also includes a number of actions to be taken by the school in response to students who are chronically tardy or illegally absent. Please remember that students who are consistently illegally absent from school do risk losing credit for classes.

The school needs your support in ensuring that students arrive to school on time and attend all of their classes. If you have any questions about the attendance status of your student/students please do not hesitate to call the office or check online using the parent access feature, SchoolTool.

WRITTEN EXCUSES ARE REQUIRED WITHIN 3 DAYS

Students in grades K-12 who are absent from school must submit a written excuse, signed by a parent/legal guardian, within three days of the student’s return or their attendance record will permanently reflect an unexcused absence after this time (i.e., no backdating of excuses will be allowed after three days). The excuse should indicate the reason for and the date(s) of the absence.

DENIAL OF COURSE CREDIT FOR CHRONIC UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

In grades 9-12, students may not be awarded course credit in any class that is required for graduation if they miss more than 15 percent of class time due to unexcused absences, tardiness or early dismissals. And keep in mind that attendance is now taken on a class-by-class basis – not only at the start of the school day.

The maximum number of unexcused absences will be:

- Full-credit courses meeting every day – 27
- Full-credit courses meeting every other day – 13
- Full-credit science courses with a lab – 20
- Half-credit courses meeting every other day – 6

For summer school, students may not be awarded credit if they miss more than three (3) days of instruction. Missed instruction calculations are based upon both class tardies and class absences.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN “EXCUSED” AND “UNEXCUSED”

Absences, tardiness and early departures will be considered excused or unexcused according to the following standards:

- **Excused:** Absences due to personal illness, family illness or death, medical/dental appointments, impassable roads due to inclement weather, religious observances, quarantine, required court appearances, approved college visits, approved cooperative-work programs, military obligations or other special circumstances approved by the district.

- **Unexcused:** Any absence that does not fit the above categories, e.g., family vacation, hunting, babysitting, hair cut, obtaining a learner’s permit, taking a road test, oversleeping, etc.

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

There are a wide variety of scholarships—both local and national—that students can apply for to help fund their college education.

All seniors are STRONGLY encouraged to make weekly checks in Naviance Student (see page 9). Criteria and application deadlines are provided for each scholarship.

Contrary to popular opinion, not all scholarships are designed for students with a 90+ average. There are many opportunities for students who take the initiative to seek out scholarships and apply. Applications range from a one-page essay to four-page applications with an essay, financial statement and transcript.

Mohonasen students who are selected for awards/scholarships are recognized at the annual high school awards ceremony in May.

There are many local scholarships awarded to Mohonasen graduates each year. Many of them are publicized on Naviance Student. Students and parents should also check with their employer(s) to see if there are any scholarships that they may qualify for. If you’re a member of a club or other organizations, there may be scholarships you can tap into.

Finally, the Internet is a great way to find information on scholarships, in addition to Naviance Student. Here are a few sites to check out:

- [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)
- [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- [www.hesc.org](http://www.hesc.org)

AWARDS CEREMONIES

Mohonasen High School recognizes student accomplishments in several ceremonies each year. The school tries to notify parents in advance when their son or daughter is going to receive an award so that they can be present to share in the celebration. Dates, times and locations for awards ceremonies are published in the annual district calendar, which is mailed home at the start of each school year.

The following are typically scheduled during evening hours in late May to mid-June:

- Academic Awards Ceremony
- Athletic Awards Banquet
- Music Awards Ceremony

The Academic Letter Award Ceremony recognizes academic achievement of students from the previous school year and is held in November of each year. Eligible students will have an 89.5 or above average in three out of four marking periods in the previous school year.
**BAND PROGRAM**

Students who are members of the band earn one unit of credit per year. However, it is important to know that membership in Mohonasen's band involves a significant “extracurricular” commitment of time and energy beyond the regular school day. Band membership requires participation in both:

- **Marching Band** – Students gain experience in marching techniques, preparation and performance at all home football games, pep rallies, parades and competitive field shows. Students are required to attend “Band Camp” (9 a.m. to 9 p.m.) the last two weeks of August.

- **Concert Band** – Students study and experience repertoire and performance, preparation and presentation at assemblies and concerts. Students with outstanding musical abilities will be selected for placement in the following groups on a non-credit extracurricular basis: select band; stage band; ensembles; participation in Suburban Scholastic Council music functions; participation in NYSSMA solo competition; area all-state and all-state bands.

There are also “select” groups offered for the orchestra and choir programs. For more on the entire music program, see Mohonasen's High School Course of Study Guide, available online at www.mohonasen.org/HS.

**CHARACTER EDUCATION**

The Mohonasen School District will work in partnership with parents to maintain a learning and work environment that supports the character development of its students. Character development will reflect and reinforce core ethical values such as honesty, tolerance, personal responsibility, respect for others, observance of laws and rules, courtesy and dignity. Use of profane or offensive language will not be tolerated. Respect for others is expected.

Mohonasen High School is a No Place for Hate School where students and staff promote a welcoming community with activities that emphasize tolerance and acceptance of all people throughout the school. Students are encouraged to get involved in the student government and in the many school-sponsored clubs, activities and service projects that support both positive character development and community building.

**CLASS RANKING**

Mohonasen’s system of grade point averages is used to determine:

- Graduation rank and class rank
- Honor Society candidacy
- Gold, Silver and Bronze Honor Rolls
- College admission
- Other scholastic awards

All full-year courses count equally toward a student’s Grade Point Average (GPA); half-year courses have a “.5” multiplier. All subjects with numerical grades – excluding physical education – are included in the computation. Any high school coursework completed in grade 8 will be in the first computed GPA for grade 9. Additionally, courses with a weighted designation are weighted as such. See page 19 for more information.

For example, the following student would have a GPA of 88.73 based on these grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Full Year Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Science</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>Half Year Count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phys. Ed.</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>Not Counted in GPA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sum of Above = 488

\[
\text{GPA} = \frac{488}{5.5} = 88.73
\]

Report cards will report each student's GPA for that quarter. The fourth quarter report card will show both the 4th-quarter GPA and the GPA for the entire school year.

All students in a graduating class are ranked together. The final senior ranking for eight semesters will be computed and forwarded to colleges and/or employers upon request.

Note: Mohonasen no longer names a valedictorian or salutatorian. Instead, students with a grade average of 90 or higher are recognized with a Superior Achievement plaque and students with an average of 85-89.4 are recognized with an a plaque for Outstanding Achievement. These students are recognized at the Academic Awards Ceremony in May.

**COLLEGE CREDIT FOR HIGH SCHOOL COURSES**

Mohonasen offers several college credit courses at the high school. These include:

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COURSES**

Accelerated students or high-achieving students may earn college credit from AP courses. These courses are extremely challenging and will help prepare students for the rigorous demands of four-year colleges. In order to qualify for college credit, students must score a 3 or better on the final AP exam – although higher scores may be required by some colleges. Students enrolled in AP courses are expected to take the AP exams.
Mohonasen offers several courses, in which students simultaneously earn high school and college credit at SCCC. These courses are a great way for students to start earning college credit. The cost is $174 per 3-credit class. Credits may be transferable to other colleges. Courses are taught at Mohonasen by the high school faculty and vary from year to year. Talk to your counselor to find out more. (See page 10 for available classes.) Free and reduced lunch students are eligible for scholarships.

SIENA COLLEGE

Mohonasen students can earn college credit for Computer Science through Siena College for a fee.

1+1 OPTIONS

Some motivated students will have an opportunity to take College in the High School courses to the extent that they can earn an associate’s degree from SCCC one year after graduating from Mohonasen High School. See your school counselor for details. (See page 7 for more information.)

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY (PLTW) COURSES

These are pre-engineering courses that follow the curriculum of RIT (Rochester Institute of Technology) classes. Students must earn a minimum grade in both the course and on the RIT exam to qualify for credit. Students may then decide whether or not they will pay for the credits. The approximate cost is $200 per course. As always, students should check with potential colleges to make sure that the credits will transfer.

THE COUNSELING AND CAREER CENTER (A.K.A. “THE GUIDANCE OFFICE”)

All high school students are assigned a school counselor to work with them throughout their high school years.

Once each year, students and counselors meet for a formal annual review. However, students should feel free to contact their counselor any time they have questions or need assistance. Counselors are also available to talk with students about family difficulties, peer relationships, drug and alcohol decisions or other personal concerns. (Also see information about the Student Assistance Counselor, page 38.)

Appointments should be made through the secretary who work in the Counseling and Career Center. Students can also email their counselor to ask questions or set up appointments.

Students are also encouraged to visit the waiting area of the Counseling and Career Center to get all kinds of useful information such as local job openings, college catalogs, scholarship applications, SAT test dates and more.

Mohonasen’s Counseling and Career Center also offers a number of special evening workshops for parents to attend each year with their teen. The programs are advertised on the district calendar and website. They typically include:

- College Panel Presentation for Juniors (juniors and their parents)
- Filling out College Financial Aid Forms (FAFSA Workshop) (seniors and their parents)
- High School Information Night (parents and students in grade 8)
- College Application Kick Start (seniors and their parents)

COURSE LOAD

All Mohonasen High School students are required to take a minimum of six credits plus physical education each year. However, students are encouraged to select as many courses as their schedule and ability allow. Seniors in good academic standing are allowed to take five credits plus physical education.

COURSE SELECTION

In many ways, high school is becoming more like college, where students can customize their course of study to reflect individual interests and career goals. The result is that students at Mohonasen High School have more choices in their coursework (particularly after grade 9) than ever before.

Choices in coursework are explained in greater detail in the Mohonasen High School Course of Study Guide, which can be accessed online at http://www.mohonasen.org/mohonasen-high-school/.

Parents and students are encouraged to be proactive about calling or making appointments with their school counselor whenever they have questions about which courses they can choose from and which would best serve their future goals. Counselors recognize that some parents want more input and information than others. However, parent involvement is always encouraged and accommodated.

In general, here’s what students and parents can expect at each grade level when it comes to selecting high school courses:

- EIGHTH GRADE – Parents are invited – along with their son or daughter – to an evening high school information program – held in February. Students and parents are invited to a freshman orientation session, usually scheduled the week before school starts.

- NINTH GRADE – This is a key year for developing a game plan...
for the rest of high school. Counselors invite every ninth grader and his or her parents to a personal conference sometime in March or April. Each conference lasts about 40 minutes.

In addition to selecting courses for tenth grade, the discussion focuses on a review of current academic performance, long- and short-term goals and an introduction to Naviance Student, which provides lots of options for career exploration including an interest assessment.

The freshman conference is also a good opportunity for parents to personally meet with their child’s counselor, give input into course selection and set the stage for a productive working relationship that will last straight through to graduation.

A preliminary list of course requests is mailed home for parent approval in May.

- **TENTH & ELEVENTH GRADE** – At both sophomore and junior meetings, counselors will cover topics on academic advisement, career planning and individual options for the following year. Parents are not specifically called in at this time, but they’re always welcome to call and request to participate. Counselors will notify parents of conferences via email.

- **TWELFTH GRADE** – Most, if not all, course selection for the final year of high school is completed in the eleventh grade. Students will still have ample interaction with their counselors as seniors, but the emphasis switches to graduation and making a successful transition to college and/or the workplace.

### HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION

At the high school there is an entire week dedicated to students selecting their courses for the following year. This is called Course Registration. The process occurs during late fall/winter for 9th, 10th and 11th grade students. During the first two days, as students move through their day, teachers will set aside a portion of the block to discuss course options and make recommendations. This will occur in both core academic areas and elective areas.

In addition, all students will be exposed to elective options via videos and/or live presentations. All teachers are available for additional questions period 10 during the week.

Students are encouraged to bring their course selection sheets home after Day 2 for parental input. During days 3 and 4 students will meet with counselors in large group settings to go over selections, check credits, answer questions and turn in their course selection sheets.

**What if I change my mind about the courses I selected?**

Students sometimes express concern that they may be locked into taking the courses planned out earlier in the year. Students actually have until the end of May to change their minds with regard to course selections.

**What if I don’t get the course(s) that I wanted?**

The actual scheduling of students into classes is a very complex procedure that cannot be finalized until the close of the summer school session each August. (Students receive their schedules on the first day of school)

Every effort is made to place students in the classes they request, but some scheduling conflicts are inevitable. Sometimes a course gets cut due to low enrollment. Or, if a student selects multiple courses that are only offered one period each day, they are not always able to fit every elective into their schedule. That’s why counselors ask students to rank their choice of electives from most important to least. When in doubt, contact your counselor as soon as possible if there are problems or concerns with your final schedule.

### COURSE WEIGHTING

In addition to the class ranking calculations (page 9), there are several courses that are weighted at the high school. Weighting means that certain higher level courses will be multiplied by either 1.025 or 1.05 depending on the course. For example, a grade of an 80 in AP English would be multiplied by 1.05 and would calculate as an 84. This weighted grade would be used toward the student’s weighted GPA and class rank. The weighted average would also be used for honor roll and honor society eligibility.


### CURRICULUM MAPS

Throughout the Mohonasen School District, teachers and administrators have K-12 “curriculum maps,” which outline what will be taught in each subject area, at each grade level, at generally consistent times during the school year.

These maps help all teachers navigate the twists and turns of an increasingly rigorous curriculum while making smoother connections from one grade level to the next. The maps will also allow parents to see – at a glance – precisely what their child will be taught at each grade level, in each course, at generally consistent times in the school year. The maps will evolve over time, reflecting continuous efforts to refine and improve curriculum district-wide.

### DROPPING A COURSE

Students should plan their courses carefully since dropping courses after school begins is discouraged and school permission may be difficult to obtain. Withdrawal from a required course is never permitted.

To drop a course, a special add/drop form must be secured from...
the teacher, completed and signed by the student, teacher, counsel-
or, department administrator, principal and parent(s) in the order
listed on the form.
No student will be allowed to drop a full-year course after 12
weeks or a half-year course after 7 weeks. All paperwork must be
completed and handed in prior to these deadlines.
Students may add a course only until the class has gone through
two full rotations of A-F cycle (about two weeks).

**EARLY GRADUATION**

Students who would like to complete their graduation require-
ments one year or one semester ahead of time should speak to
their counselor about the process for requesting permission for
early graduation.

**GRADING**

The high school uses a numerical system of 1-100 for grading
students, which translates as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>97-100</td>
<td>3.90-4.00</td>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93-96</td>
<td>3.75-3.89</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>3.50-3.74</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>3.25-3.49</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>3.00-3.24</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>2.75-2.99</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>2.50-2.74</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>2.25-2.49</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>2.00-2.24</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-69</td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64 and below</td>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

There are currently three diploma options for Mohonasen
students. All students are expected to challenge themselves and
attain the highest degree possible.

Graduation and testing requirements for the class of 2019
and beyond are listed below. Students with questions should
contact their counselor.

- 4 years English
- 4 years social studies
- 3 years math
- 3 years science
- 1/2 credit in health
- 1 credit in foreign language (4 for Advanced Regents for
  Class of 2019 on)
- 1 credit in art or music
- 2 credits in physical education
- Minimum 22.5 credits

**REGENTS DIPLOMA**

Minimum score of 65 required on all exams.
- Common Core Algebra I
- 1 Science Regents
- Global History Regents
- U.S. History Regents
- English Regents

**4+1 OPTION**

Currently, students are required to pass five Regents exams in
high school in order to graduate – one each in English, science,
math, as well as the U.S. History and the Global Studies and
Geography exams. The 4+1 option permits a student to substitute
a second math or science Regents exam in place of one of the two
social studies exams.

**ADVANCED REGENTS DIPLOMA**

All of the above exams plus additional tests listed below, with
minimum score of 65 required
- 2 additional Math Regents
- 1 additional Science Regents
- Foreign Language Exam * (Checkpoint B; given after Level 4
  for Class of 2019 and beyond.)

*A five unit sequence in art, music or occ. ed. may be substituted
for the foreign language sequence and exams.

Students who have a 90 or better average for all of their Regents
exams will be awarded a “with honors” distinction with their
Regents or Advanced Regents Diplomas.

Students who score an 85 or better on 3 math exams will be award-
ed a “mastery in math” with their Advanced Regents Diplomas. Stu-
dents who score an 85 or better on 3 science exams will be awarded
a “mastery in science” with their Advanced Regents Diplomas.

**LOCAL DIPLOMA**

A local diploma is only available to students with disabilities.
See page 38 for details.

**PM SCHOOL**

Tutoring outside the regular school day is a service that schools
are required to provide to students who are unable to attend school
due to medical, emotional or disciplinary problems.

High school students who qualify for PM School may receive
two hours of tutoring per subject up to 10 hours per week for all
subjects.

If the inability to attend school is due to a medical condition,
parents should call their child’s school counselor as soon as pos-
sible and provide a written medical request for tutoring from the
child’s physician. The counselor will then submit the doctor’s note
along with additional paperwork to the superintendent of schools for approval of tutoring.

Once approval is given, students not housebound by their illness will attend 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. tutoring via PM School. For housebound students, counselors make every effort to arrange for tutors for all of the students’ core subjects.

HOMEWORK

Homework helps students practice and reinforce what they learned in class. It also teaches self-discipline and responsibility.

Depending on the course, homework can account for up to 20 percent of a student’s grade. Students who regularly complete their homework will do better in class and on the Regents exams, which are required for graduation. It’s that simple – and that important.

Mohonasen recommends high school students devote, on average, one to two hours for homework each day – with certain advanced-level courses demanding more.

HOMEWORK AND ABSENCES

It is the responsibility of each student to record and complete homework assignments – even when he or she is absent from school. With a little planning and follow through, students can avoid falling behind. Here are a few pointers for staying on top of homework:

- Get in the habit of writing down the entire week’s assignments if your teacher posts them in advance. That way, you will already know the homework if you’re absent.
- Check out the district website at www.mohonasen.org. A growing number of teachers put homework assignments, research links, etc. on their webpages.
- Find a reliable friend in each class that you can call for homework information when you’re sick. (Offer to do the same for him or her, too!)
- Know each teacher’s rules (including deadlines!) for making up missed classwork.
- The first day back to school from an absence – even if it was only one day – plan to stay after school (period 10) to talk to each of your teachers about getting notes and/or missed assignments and to arrange a schedule with the teacher for turning in missed work. (Then resolve to follow through!)
- Students who are going to be absent for three or more days should call the attendance office at 356-8315 to ask for their back homework. Work will be available 24 hours after the attendance office is contacted.
- Students who will be out for an extended period, may – with a doctor’s note – be eligible for home tutoring.

In some cases a student may be asked to remain after school with the teacher to complete overdue homework. If this request is made, it takes precedence over all other school activities.

PARENT/STUDENT ACCESS: SCHOOLTOOL

All high school parents can take advantage of the parent/student access feature, SchoolTool. Through this online tool, parents can view their child’s attendance, academic and discipline records from their home or office computer. In addition, the high school has gone “paperless,” meaning that interim reports/report cards are now only available through SchoolTool. Teachers will also update grades and attendance information in SchoolTool on a regular basis. To sign up, learn more, or if you are unable to access the Internet, please contact the high school main office. All high school students also have a secure SchoolTool login, so they can access their grades.

MOHONASEN WEBSITE

The Mohonasen website (www.mohonasen.org) continues to provide news and information on all kinds of topics – from what’s making news in the district to what’s for lunch each day.

The high school has its own section on the district website and many teachers have classroom or department-level pages where visitors can learn about homework policies, see student work or find helpful instructional links.

Things you’ll find on Mohonasen’s website include:
- School news, important reminders, and photo galleries
- Teacher and department-level webpages
- Athletic news, sports schedules and NEW! FamilyID.com online sports registration
- Information about swim classes for kids and adults
- School closing information
- Monthly lunch and breakfast menus
- Board of Education news, meeting agendas and minutes
- A district calendar and staff directory
- Course of Study Guide & much more!

SCHOOL MESSENGER TO REPLACE SNN

In an effort to strengthen emergency communications, the district will introduce a new mass notification system called School Messenger in 2018-19. The system will allow the district to communicate with families via email, automated phone calls and text messages, when needed. School Messenger will fully replace School News Notifier (SNN) for district and school communications. Because School Messenger uses contact information that is stored in SchoolTool, it is important for families to keep their contact information up to date. Watch for more information about School Messenger coming in September or visit the district’s website, www.mohonasen.org.

SOCIAL MEDIA: FACEBOOK & TWITTER

Mohonasen parents and students can now receive district news and information through Facebook and Twitter. “Like” us at www.facebook.com/Mohonasen and follow us the district Twitter via @MohonCSD. Follow the high school on Twitter via @MohonHS.
HONOR ROLLS

Four times each year, after report cards are issued, an honor roll is released based upon grades received during the preceding quarter. All grades – excluding PE – are counted in computing honor roll standings. A grade below 65 in any subject excludes a student from honor roll that quarter.

- **Gold Honor Roll** will be awarded to students who achieve a grade point average of 95 or above.
- **Silver Honor Roll** will be awarded to students who achieve a grade point average of 90 to 94.
- **Bronze Honor Roll** will be awarded to students who achieve a grade point average of 85 to 89.

HONOR SOCIETIES

Business and Marketing Honor Society of New York State
- Advisor: Susan Braiman
- Eligibility: Juniors and seniors who have taken at least three business courses and have an overall average of 85 percent or higher in those courses. Students’ cumulative average at the time of induction must be 85 percent or above. A student's disciplinary record is also taken into account.

French National Honor Society
- Advisors: Patrick Keagan
- Meetings: Announced a week or two in advance
- Eligibility: Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors. Students must have a cumulative average of 90 percent or better in French for six semesters as well as an 85 percent average or better in all other subjects. A student's disciplinary record is also taken into account. Once inducted, FNHS participates in events such as dining at area French restaurants and fund-raising.

Mathematics Honor Society (MHS)

- Advisors: Stephanie Bruhn
- Eligibility: Juniors and seniors who maintain enrollment in a mathematics class, and have at least a 90 percent mathematics and an 85 percent scholastic average will be eligible for induction. It is the mission of the (MHS) to recognize mathematical achievement and to involve its members in activities designed to enhance their mathematical knowledge and the mathematical knowledge of all Mohonasen High School students.

National Honor Society
- Advisor: Colleen Guse, Danielle Hunt
- Meetings: Monthly
- Eligibility: Juniors/Seniors

Students must be in attendance at Mohonasen for at least one semester. They must have a cumulative high school average of at least 90 percent at the end of their sophomore and junior years to apply. Membership is also based on:
- **Leadership** – participation in at least two school activities in two different school years;
- **Scholarship** – maintaining an exceptional cumulative average;
- **Character** – a record free of disciplinary infractions; and
- **Service** – participation in a community service (either civil or religious) for which no payment is received. Note: Service must have been completed prior to application to the Honor Society.

Science Honor Society
- Advisor: Rebecca Shea
- Meetings: Generally monthly; announced in advance
- Eligibility: Students must have completed three semesters of high school science. A minimum scholastic average of 85 percent with a minimum science average of 90 percent and a minimum math average of 85 percent must be maintained. No major disciplinary infractions allowed.
- Activities: Guest speakers, educational field trips, student tutoring program and fund-raising.

Spanish Honor Society
- Advisors: Heather Clikeman
- Eligibility: Students in grades 11-12. Must have a 90 percent average in Spanish over six quarters and an overall average of 85 percent or higher in all subjects. SHS activities include going to dinner at area Hispanic restaurants, field trips to cultural events, and fund-raising for induction.

Tri-M Music Honor Society
- Advisors: Kim Kondenar
- Eligibility: The Tri-M Music Honor Society is designed to recognize students for their academic and musical achievements,
reward them for their accomplishments and service activities, and to inspire other students to excel at music and leadership. Through more than 4,500 chartered chapters, Tri-M has helped thousands of young people provide years of service through music in schools throughout the world. Students will be made aware of opportunities to apply through their music teachers.

INTERIM REPORTS TO PARENTS

There are four marking periods in the regular school year. Report cards are made available online (in SchoolTool) a few weeks after the close of each marking period. Interim reports are available online approximately halfway through each marking period. Combined, parents can expect eight online reports on their child’s progress in a typical school year. Specific dates are noted on Mohonasen’s annual district calendar that is mailed home at the end of August.

Parents may request a paper copy of an interim report or report card by calling the main office. In addition, any parent who doesn’t currently have a SchoolTool account can sign up by calling the high school main office.

LIBRARY

The library hours are 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. each school day. The library is to be used for research, borrowing books, use of computers or reading. Students using the library are expected to work quietly.

Materials in the library circulate for a specific period of time, generally two weeks. All students wishing to borrow materials must check them out at the library desk.

Students are expected to be responsible and courteous of the needs of others and return library materials on time. Lost or damaged materials must be replaced at the expense of the borrower.

To use the library during an assigned study hall, the following guidelines should be observed.

1. Permission to sign out of a study hall in order to go to the library must be signed by the study hall supervisor. Students with pre-signed passes from a subject area teacher will be given preference.

2. Students must sign the library sign-out sheet prior to leaving an assigned study hall and indicate the activity to be performed in the library. This includes students with pre-signed passes.

3. Students must report to the library directly from study hall or classes and sign in/out from that location.

4. Students must obtain pre-signed passes to access the library.

PARENT CONFERENCES

Parents may make appointments for conferences with teachers and/or their child’s school counselor by calling the Counseling and Career Center any time they have questions or concerns. School officials may also call parents to request a conference as needed.

If a parent or student is unhappy with an interim report or report card, a conference can help get at the root of the problem. However, often a phone call or e-mail directly to the teacher(s) can resolve the issue.

A conference is also a good opportunity to set up an improvement plan. In almost all instances high school students will be expected to participate.

School counselors can set up and facilitate a group conference involving one or more teachers. The focus is always on problem-solving — not playing a “blame game.”

Most people, including students, say they feel relieved at the end of a conference. That’s because once the nature of the problem is clearly understood, it’s much easier to address it — particularly when everyone is working together.

Keep in mind things don’t have to be desperate before parents step in. Any drop in grades is a good reason to call the school.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Every student in grades 9-12 must successfully complete a half-unit of physical education each year of attendance to qualify for graduation. These units are in addition to those credits necessary for a Regents or local diploma.

Students receive a numerical grade each quarter for physical education. Grades are based on preparation, participation and performance. Students who miss P.E. classes or are unprepared can make up classes during Period 10 on selected days.

Appropriate dress for P.E. classes includes sneakers, T-shirts and shorts or sweatpants.

MEDICAL EXCUSES AND P.E.

Students who are unable to participate in physical education for any reason will need a signed note stating their limitations from their doctor. Students will be given a zero grade for each missed day unless they submit this written medical excuse to the school nurse. If a student ends the school year with a medical excuse, he or she needs to submit either a new excuse or a release note from their physician for the next school year. Students will complete written work as prescribed by the P.E. teacher while out on a medical excuse. All instructions for medical make-up work are located on the P.E. webpage.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS

Promotion in grades nine through twelve depends on the number of credits a student has accumulated and the number of constants (English, math, science and social studies) passed. Any questions
about a student’s grade-level status should be referred to the school counselor:

- **To be considered a sophomore**: students must have a minimum of four credits toward graduation and have passed at least one unit of English or social studies.
- **To be considered a junior**: students must have a minimum of eight and one half credits toward graduation and have passed two units of either English or social studies, and at least one year of the other. Students must also have passed at least one year of math and science.
- **To be considered a senior**: students must be able to be scheduled to complete all of their required course work by June and earn at least 22.5 credits.

## REQUESTS AND NON-REQUESTS FOR TEACHERS

A student or parent may relay a preference for a particular teacher but this in no way guarantees that the match will work out when student schedules are created in August. Quite simply, there are just too many variables when it comes to scheduling students, courses and teachers to be able to promise a particular teacher.

Students or parents may put in a NON-request for a particular teacher if the student and/or a sibling has had the teacher before. There is no guarantee that a non-request can always be honored, for the same scheduling issues outlined above.

If a senior has failed a senior English or social studies course, they are not eligible to retake the same course with that teacher if another course or teacher is available.

## STANDARDIZED TESTS (FOR COLLEGE APPLICATION)

Students are advised (and in many cases, required) to take certain standardized tests in order to apply to colleges. Following is a summary of the major tests:

- **The SAT** (Scholastic Aptitude Test) includes evidence-based reading, writing, language tests and math tests. The math test focuses on problem-solving, data analysis, algebra and advanced math. There is also an optional essay component, required by some colleges. SAT questions focus on skills that matter most for college readiness and success, according to the latest research. It is required by most colleges to be considered for admission and most students take it in their junior year. There are also a series of **SAT Subject Tests** that measure knowledge in content-specific subject areas such as languages, science, social studies, math, etc. The SAT Subject Tests are recommended for highly motivated and/or accelerated students.
- **The PSAT** is designed to prepare students for the SAT. It is typically taken early in the fall of the junior year. It measures what you learn in high school and what you need to succeed in college. This practice for the SAT includes a reading test, a writing and language test, and a math test. The PSAT is the only way to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Sophomores accelerated in math are encouraged to take the PSAT. Students who take the PSAT will get personalized prep for the SAT through KHAN Academy, based on the student’s PSAT responses.
- **The ACT** (American College Test) is required for admission at many colleges and is typically taken in the junior and/or senior year. It measures English, math, and science reasoning. It also contains an optional writing section that we strongly encourage students to take.

All of the preceding tests require preregistration and many are offered at multiple times throughout the year. The PSAT is offered in-house at Mohonasen; the SAT and ACT are offered at designated testing centers. Where possible, dates are publicized in advance on the district calendar and on the district website calendar. All require a fee, generally ranging from $20 to $80.

## SUMMER READING

All students entering grades 9-12 are required to complete a summer reading assignment for English. Details about the reading assignment are generally sent home in June and posted on the district website at www.mohonasen.org.

## SUMMER SCHOOL

The school district offers a growing range of programs each summer – including enrichment classes, sports camps, driver education, swim classes and, of course, the traditional classes for students who failed one or more courses during the regular school year or wish to improve their grade in a subject.

There are also limited opportunities for review classes for students retaking Regents Exams.

What follows is some general information about Mohonasen’s traditional summer school program:

- **Attendance**: Daily attendance is necessary if students are going to be successful. In summer school, there is virtually no opportunity for makeup work, so attendance – every day – is imperative.
- **Calendar**: Summer school typically begins right after Independence Day and runs for six weeks, ending in the first half of August. A detailed calendar and list of courses is drawn up each spring and can be obtained from your school counselor. There are only two periods in the summer schedule, which means students can take no more than two classes.
- **Transportation**: Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from summer school. Bicycle racks are
available to students at their own risk. (Bike locks are strongly advised.) Students driving to and from school must park in the student parking lot.

- **Discipline:** Students referred to the office for disciplinary reasons risk suspension and jeopardize their chances of successfully completing the summer requirements.

- **Grading Policy:** Students taking a 45-hour course in summer school cannot “replace” their grade from the regular school year. The two grades are averaged together for a final score with each counting 50 percent. For example, a student who fails 9th-grade English with a grade of 50 and then enrolls in summer school must earn at least an 80 for his/her summer school work in order to earn a final grade of 65 in the course. In other words – performance during the school year counts! Students who give up trying midyear may find it impossible to score high enough on their summer school work to counterbalance their end of the school year average in June.

- **Exams:** Summer schedules for local and Regents Exams are set in the spring. Students desiring to take a “walk-in” Regents Exam must preregister by early July.

Students or parents who have additional questions regarding the summer school program at Mohonasen should contact their school counselor or the summer school principal.

### TUTORS

Students – or parents – who wish to obtain a private professional tutor can contact their school counselor for names of qualified tutors in various subject areas. The cost generally runs between $35-50 per hour.

Another option – that has no cost – is to request a peer tutor. This request should generally be limited to students who have already been staying for period 10 help from their teacher and still feel that they need the help of a tutor.

National Honor Society and Math Honor Society students also offer peer tutoring. NHS members are stationed in the library during their study halls, and students looking for tutoring can sign out of study hall and get assistance during most periods of the day.

For more information, students should see their counselor.

### MOHONASEN HS ELECTIVE COURSES

#### MO-TECH (MORE ON PG. 28-29)

Mo-Tech is an initiative that brings practical, hands-on coursework to the campus of Mohonasen High School. The program currently has the following strands: Criminal Justice, Medicine & Health, Media Arts, Emerging Technologies, Business, and Child Development.

### ART

The curriculum of the art department is available for all students. These courses are designed to enable students to learn more about themselves and their abilities so they can succeed in school and in life. These classes will help prepare the serious art student as well as enhance the skills of all students. Art courses include:

- Studio in Art
- Drawing & Painting
- Ceramics I
- Sculpture I
- Graphic Design
- Digital Photography
- Advanced Studio: Sculpture/Ceramics
- Advanced Studio: Drawing & Painting
- Independent Study: Art

### BUSINESS

The business department’s goals are to provide students with the knowledge and the skills necessary for college; to prepare students to directly enter the world of work; to give students information that is helpful in carrying on personal business affairs and entrepreneurship; and to prepare students to make informed economic decisions in life. Business courses include:

- Accounting I & II
- Business Computer Applications
- Business Law I & II
- Career Exploration Internship Program (CEIP)/(MoTech)
- Career Portfolio (CFMII)
- Entrepreneurship
- Financial Literacy
- Career & Financial Management I
- Principles of Marketing I & II
- Sports & Entertainment Marketing

### FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

The family & consumer sciences program helps students become competent and self-reliant in managing their personal, family and work lives. It is designed to meet the needs of students interested in careers in human services, education, family...
services, social work, nutrition, culinary, fashion design, textiles and interior design. Family & consumer science courses include:

- Child Psychology I & II
- Adolescent Psychology
- Early Childhood Education
- Independent Living
- Lifespan Studies Core
- Fitness & Nutrition
- Parenting
- Childhood Education Career Exploration Internship Program (CEIP) *(Mo-Tech)*
- Childhood Cooperative Work Experience

**MUSIC**

The goal of the music department is to give students the opportunity to find a richer life by guiding them to a better understanding of music. There are valuable courses offered in several areas of music. All students, regardless of skill level, are encouraged to participate. Music courses include:

- Band
- Orchestra & Select Orchestra
- Choir & Select Choir
- Music Theory
- Music Appreciation
- Music Production *(Mo-Tech)*

**EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES**

Technology courses will encourage the study of materials processes, tools, occupations, products, manufacturing, organization and research. The study of technology will provide a variety of experiences for students with varied interests and aptitudes. Technology courses include:

- Manufacturing Processes I & II
- Production & Construction Technology Systems I & II
- Robotics
- Engineering Design & Development
- Alternative Energy
- Nanotechnology and Nanotechnology II
- Emerging Technologies Career Exploration Internship Program (CEIP)
- Intro to Technology & Trades
- Principles of Engineering
- Introduction to Engineering Design
- Computer Integrated Manufacturing
- Aerospace Engineering
- Basic Electricity/Electronics
- Introduction to Computer Science (through Siena College for a fee)
- Mechatronics I & II

**CAPITAL REGION BOCES
CAREER & TECHNICAL SCHOOL (CTE)**

Mohonasen students can attend CTE classes at Capital Region BOCES Career & Technical School on Watervliet-Shaker Road in Colonie. The school offers courses and career pathways that complement and expand on those offered at Mohonasen. In addition, several CTE programs are now offered right here on the Mohonasen campus at the new Center for Advanced Technology at Mohonasen.

Students can enroll in the Career & Technical School in their junior or senior year. Those attending class at the Colonie campus attend half of each school day at the Career & Technical School and half at Mohonasen. Bus transportation is provided by the district.

Many of the programs at the Career & Technical School are geared for students who intend to go on to two- or four-year colleges or specialized schools. Several programs are now offered in close partnership with area colleges so that students may earn college credit for certain high school programs.

**CRITERIA FOR ACCEPTANCE**

Mohonasen sends a limited number of students to Career & Tech and New Visions programs. In order to be considered for these programs, students must meet a variety of criteria. First, students must show a genuine interest in the area they would like to pursue. They can show this interest by attending the visitation to the Career & Technical School that takes place each winter. Second, they must show a commitment to their education. Students do this with a positive attendance pattern and success in their courses. Lastly we expect students to exhibit mature, professional behavior. This goal is accomplished by keeping a clean discipline record. Students who do not meet these criteria will be in jeopardy of not being selected to attend their program of choice the following year.

**Programs offered at the Career & Technical School include:**

**New Visions: Health Careers**

This one-year, honors-level program turns an area hospital into a classroom for highly motivated and successful high school seniors. Applying academics to their field of study, students earn four high school credits, including honors English and social studies, and college credits. Students rotate through up to 30 different departments at Ellis Hospital or St. Peter’s Hospital and learn about the medical field and related careers first-hand from experienced professionals.

**New Visions Law & Government**

This one-year honors-level program is based near the Capitol,
where students learn firsthand about the executive, judicial and legislative branches of government and the private legal sector. Students earn 4 high school credits, including Honors English (1.0), AP U.S. Government and Politics (1.0), Honors Economics (0.5) and Honors Criminal Justice (0.5).

Automotive Careers

- Auto Body Repair/Refinishing
- Automotive Technology/AYES Automotive Technician/Automotive Tech Prep
- Medium/Heavy-Duty Truck Repair (Diesel Technician)

Business Careers

- Global Fashion Studies
- Internet Application Design
- Theatre & Film Production Technology (CAT @ Mohonasen)
- Gaming, Multimedia & Web Design (CAT @ Mohonasen)

Construction & Fabrication Careers

- Building Trades
- Electrical Trades
- Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration (HVAC)
- Heavy Equipment
- Residential/Commercial Construction
- Welding & Metal Fabrication (CAT @ Mohonasen)

Government

- Criminal Justice

Health Careers

- Nurse Assistant
- Sterile Processing Technician (CAT @ Mohonasen)
- Two-Year Sequence of Health Careers

Service Industry Careers

- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts & Hospitality Technology

Technical Careers

- Computer & Network Technician
- Manufacturing & Machining Technology

(at Mohonasen CAT)
- Advanced Alternative Energy (CAT @ Mohonasen)
- Engineering Tech (CAT @ Mohonasen)

Other Programs:

- Career Studies programs for students with individualized education plans
- Adult Education programs

Visit www.capitalregionboces.org for more information, and be sure to talk to your school counselor at Mohonasen!
Mohonasen’s Mo-Tech provides relevant, non-traditional learning opportunities in the areas of criminal justice, television production and journalism, business, child development, engineering and robotics, and medical technology. These specialized electives combine classroom instruction with hands-on learning and community connections that expose students to various college and career options.

The Mohonasen Mo-Tech program doesn’t just teach students about being a security officer, a journalist, a teacher or an engineer – it offers students a chance to BE a security officer, journalist, teacher or engineer. Students in this program are required to have the curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking skills just like they would if they were working in the “real world.” Students also learn what it is like to be part of a team and, in many cases, part of a community.

Teachers involved in each Mo-Tech program work together as a team so that each teacher’s expertise serves to strengthen the courses and benefit every student in each program. While teachers are responsible for their individual classes, each team works together to plan and consult on curriculum and lessons. Teachers within each program may come into any of the classes in the respective program to conduct lessons or help students with a project from time to time. Classes may also go on join field trips and share guest speakers.

Mohonasen High School currently has the following Mo-Tech program strands:

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

The Mo-Tech Criminal Justice Program has been designed for Mohonasen students interested in pursuing careers related to criminal justice and law enforcement. It prepares students to enter post-secondary education in these fields or go straight to the work force. Possible careers related to this program include: law enforcement at local, state or federal levels, court or security officer, corrections or environmental officer, military police officer, bail enforcement agent, private investigator, forensic technician among others. Students may earn up to six articulation credits through SCCC upon completion of this program.

**EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES**

These courses prepare students for various technology pathways. Students develop skills in several areas including: creative problem solving, 3-D sketching and industrial design. Students will cover units in construction technology, woodworking, machining and manufacturing, design process, computer-aided drafting and design (CAD), robotics, automation, nanotechnology, alternative energy, electronics and aerospace and flight.

**MEDICINE & HEALTH**

This is the newest Mo-Tech strand, which currently includes courses in physical education, sports medicine, and sports marketing and business. Students are exposed to a variety of hands-on, practical opportunities involving many different aspects of sports studies, athletics and health. They are also given several opportunities to practice their core studies skills, including math, science and ELA. Students in this program may also complete an internship their senior year.

**MEDIA ARTS**

This program is designed for students interested in pursuing careers related to video production, music production, video editing, communications, journalism, broadcasting, theater arts, film, script writing, acting, graphic design and a variety of other careers. It gives students practical, hands-on opportunities to learn about the equipment and processes related to the careers above as well as involvement in a variety of projects that benefit the Mohonasen school community.

---

*Continued on next page*
CAREER EXPLORATION INTERNSHIP PROGRAM IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT

This is a one-year, unpaid, 108-hour internship for students interested in becoming teachers. Students are placed in a classroom at Bradt Primary School, Pinewood Elementary School, or Draper Middle School. Students experience all aspects of the teaching profession, helping to improve their teamwork, leadership, and human relations skills. Students fill out time sheets, journals, and work on related activities like researching educational trends.

CAREER EXPLORATION INTERNSHIP PROGRAM IN BUSINESS & MARKETING

This is a one-year, unpaid, 108-hour internship that is an outside placement at a local business. Students work with mentors in their chosen area of interest.

Mo-Tech strands are fields in which students have shown interest, and in many cases are also fields that the business community has said are lacking a critical mass of trained professionals. Mo-Tech classes are typically small, giving students the ability to work together. Students also interact with adults in new and different ways, ranging from the “team” approach where the teacher is part of something produced by the class (like a television broadcast), to community-based relationships established through the field trips and internships.

These programs are also centered on topics that are driven by student interest and choice, which will ensure that they are sustained over time. Research indicates that students who are engaged in school are more likely to learn, find the experience rewarding, graduate, and pursue higher education.

Mohonasen leaders believe that this model of learning – real-world experiences combined with classroom learning – is a 21st century learning model that will greatly benefit every single student involved.

As the district looks to expand and improve programs through more business and community partnerships, field trips, guest speakers and increasingly modern materials and lessons, a main focus of this program will always be helping students see the relevance of school and continually improving their curiosity, critical thinking and creativity. These are skills that will never become obsolete. These are skills that will turn 21st century students into 21st century lifelong learners.

The Mo-Tech learning model has these main components:

- Special electives are taught by certified teachers. These courses incorporate traditional academics (math, science, social studies, etc.) into lessons specific to the many aspects of each subject area. They blend classroom learning with hands-on, project-based instruction.

- A program facilitator who has experience in and connections to the “real world.” For this aspect of the program, the district has tapped into the expertise of various existing staff members – like the director of security or communications coordinator – who work with the teacher. This model helps students gain access to resources and knowledge that aren’t typically available in more traditional classroom settings. Facilitators advise on curriculum, assist in class projects and use their connections in the field to organize guest speakers and field trips.

- Field trips are taken to local sites and guest presentations are given by experts in the various fields throughout the school year. These experiences not only open students’ eyes to post high school opportunities, but they help the students make professional contacts that are invaluable after graduation.

- Programs include the opportunity for internships and senior projects that provide extended exposure and experiences in the various fields for students in their senior year.
THE “PASS” PROGRAM

Generally speaking, participation in interscholastic athletics has a positive impact on academic performance. However, in the event a student is failing one or more courses at the five-week interim reporting period, or at the end of the marking period, they will be placed on the "PASS Program."

Students on the PASS Program will meet with the Athletic Director to review the expectations and requirements to continue participation in athletics. Students must stay after school every day and fill out a daily progress report that they submit to their coaches. A teacher’s signature indicating that the student completed his or her work is necessary for the form to be complete. These forms must be completed every day in order to remain eligible for their sport. At the completion of each week, teachers will submit a weekly progress report to the Athletic Director outlining the student’s progress in the classes they are currently failing. If reports indicate that no progress was made, then the student-athlete will be ineligible the following week. Eligibility runs week by week for the entire 5 weeks.

Students failing four or more courses are automatically ineligible to participate in athletics for a minimum of two weeks.

ONLINE SPORTS REGISTRATION WITH FAMILYID.COM

Athletes now register for sports online through FamilyID.com. All athletes must complete registration prior to each sports season. Here, you will fill out personal info, emergency contact info, health paperwork and you can even upload your child’s physical form (optional). No more sending home piles of paperwork on the first day of practice! To sign up, go to the Athletics page at mohonasen.org and click “Register Now.” For questions or more information, please call the Athletic Office at (518) 356-8275.

INTERSCOLASTIC SPORTS

Mohonasen fields a wide range of interscholastic sports teams each season.

Students are eligible to play four consecutive years of athletics in high school starting with the date of entry into ninth grade.

The modified teams for football, soccer, basketball, softball, swimming, wrestling, cross country, track and field, girls volleyball and baseball are limited to grades 7-8.

When a student is participating in a sport, they are automatically held under the Athletic Code of Conduct. Parents/guardians and student-athletes will electronically agree and sign the Code of Conduct upon registering online with Family ID. This indicates they will respect and abide by the district’s standards of behavior for school athletes, which are spelled out on that form.

Fall Season:

- Cheerleading – Varsity & JV
- Cross Country – (Boys and Girls) – Varsity, JV, Frosh & Modified
- Football – Varsity, JV & Modified
- Golf – Varsity only
- Soccer – (Boys & Girls) – Varsity, JV & Modified
- Swimming – (Girls) – Varsity only
- Tennis – (Girls) – Varsity only
- Volleyball – (Girls) – Varsity, JV & Modified

Winter Season:

- Cheerleading – Varsity, JV & Frosh
- Basketball – (Boys & Girls) – Varsity, JV, Frosh & Modified
- Bowling – (Boys & Girls) – Varsity
- Ice Hockey – Varsity only
- Swimming – Boys Varsity & Modified Co-ed
- Indoor Track – (Boys & Girls) – Varsity & Frosh
- Wrestling – Varsity, JV & Modified
- Volleyball - (Boys) - Varsity Only

Spring Season:

- Baseball – (Boys) – Varsity, JV, Frosh & Modified
- Softball – (Girls) – Varsity, JV & Modified
- Track & Field – (Boys & Girls) – Varsity, JV & Modified
- Tennis – (Boys) – Varsity only
- Lacrosse – (Boys & Girls) – Varsity, JV & Modified

Meet the Coaches Night

Meet the Coaches Night is held at the start of each season to provide parents with an opportunity to gain insight into the expectations and philosophies of our athletic program. Parents will have the chance to ask questions regarding their child’s athletic teams. One of the objectives of this night is to enhance the line of communication among all members of the Mohonasen athletic community.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can anyone try out for a team?

All students are welcome to try out for a sport and many teams have no “cuts.” In skills-intensive sports it is very difficult for a player with little or no experience to make a team. However, all students are still welcome to try out.

How can I find out when tryouts are being held or when a team starts practice?

Tryouts and/or practices start around the same time each
year for most teams. In general, fall teams begin practice mid-August, winter teams begin early November and spring sports begin early March. Within each sport, varsity teams often begin practicing a week or two earlier than their JV and modified counterparts.

Announcements about tryouts are made in school and coaches hold preseason meetings to go over important information with prospective players.

Parents can find out about tryouts by visiting the athletics page on the Web at www.mohonasen.org. Parents are also encouraged to call the office of the Athletic Director (518-356-8270) for more information.

What are the rules about sports physicals...when do I need one...and where can I get one?

To play on a team, or even practice, students must — by law — have a sports physical on file with the school nurse. The physical must be dated within the past calendar year of the current sport season.

The physical can be performed by a student's family doctor, but Mohonasen's health physical form for Grades 6-12 — which is also available from the school nurse or online at www.mohonasen.org — must be filled out.

Prior to each sports season, students also have the option of having a free sports physical performed by the school physician. Students will be given advanced notice throughout the year of the physical dates.

Students must obtain and complete a Sports Packet (provided by coaches prior to each sports season).

Note: In order for all students to participate on a school sports team, a Sports Health Update Form must be filled out, signed by a parent and turned in to the school nurse. This form can also be obtained from the school nurse or at www.mohonasen.org.

If you're on a team, does that mean you get equal playing time...or for that matter, any playing time?

Rules about playing time vary from coach to coach, team to team and sport to sport.

In sports like track, for example, all students participate in at least one event at every meet. However, not every athlete travels to every special meet or invitational and students don’t get to choose the events they want to participate in.

At the modified level – where the emphasis is on developing ability – most coaches will try to play every student for at least some portion of each game. As students progress up the competitive ladder to varsity level teams, the emphasis is more and more on winning. No team member is guaranteed playing time.

Where can I get a copy of game schedules?

Mohonasen's Athletic Office provides copies of season schedules to coaches who in turn give them to students to take home. Keep in mind, schedules do change so when in doubt, ask the coach or call the Athletic Office at (518) 356-8275. You can also go to the Athletics page on the Mohonasen website and search in the new Activities Scheduler or visit colonialcouncil.org.

Where can I get directions to away games?

Directions to high schools that Mohonasen competes against are listed in the Athletic Handbook that parents need to sign each season. You can also find directions to all Colonial Council schools by visiting the Athletics page of the Mohonasen website or colonialcouncil.org.

As a PARENT of a high school athlete, what's my recommended role?

Attend games, both home and away whenever possible. Be your son’s or daughter’s biggest fan.

Remember that all the research on why kids play sports indicates that most play for the sheer enjoyment of the game. Don’t put unnecessary pressure on your child to start, to star or to win a scholarship. Support them no matter what their role on the team may be. Model good sportsmanship at all games, both home and away, and keep the focus positive. Please cheer, but don’t jeer.

Support the decisions of the coach. If you have questions or concerns, please speak directly to the coach – not about the coach with your child.

When are students eligible for an athletic letter?

Students are eligible to receive a varsity letter when they successfully complete a season on a varsity team. After that, students may receive a varsity pin as well as other awards.

How are intramural programs advertised? Who can take part?

High school intramurals are offered on a regular basis throughout the school year during 10th period.

Offerings vary from month to month. Activities are publicized in physical education classes, on the morning announcements and via school bulletin boards. All students are encouraged to attend as their interest and schedules allow.

Who should I contact if I have other questions?

If you have any other questions about Mohonasen's athletic program, call the Athletic Office at (518) 356-8275.
JOIN A CLUB! GET INVOLVED!

The Arrowhead
• Advisor: Tara Halliday
• Meetings: Once a week

The Arrowhead is the high school student newspaper. If you’re an aspiring writer or you like to draw or take photos, The Arrowhead is a great way to get hands-on experience, build a portfolio and have fun at the same time! Reporters and artists are always needed. Members of The Arrowhead staff are expected to contribute one to three articles per paper – by the necessary deadlines. Examples of past articles include editorials, sports articles, school news stories, current events, trivia, advice columns and college spotlights. New ideas are always welcome.

Art Club
• Advisor: Allison Vaughn
• Meetings: Weekly

The art club is open to all students in grades 9-12. Meetings are held weekly to accommodate student schedules. The art club is an opportunity for students to explore the world of art in an atmosphere that is less rigorous than a formal academic program. Students will select and work on various small art projects throughout the year. The art club is focused on fund-raising to support Mohonasen Art Scholarships for graduating seniors pursuing a major in art at college.

Media Arts Live Production
• Advisor: Mr. Veeder
• Meetings: As announced

The Audiovisual Club provides students with opportunities throughout the year to film and broadcast various school events.

Color Guard
• Advisor: Dan Jones
• Meetings: Practice begins in July

Mohonasen’s Color Guard is open to students in grades 8-12. The Guard accompanies the Marching Band at competitive field shows and parades. Guard members add a bit of pizzazz to the band by flashing and twirling batons, flags and rifles and dancing while the band performs. Members also compete against other color guards in New York and beyond.

Students also have the option of participating in the Indoor Guard during the winter months. It is also possible for instrumental students to participate in Color Guard.

Students are usually asked to attend meetings before the school year is over and are expected to attend practices beginning in July and participating in Band Camp, held the last two weeks of August.

Fashion Club
• Advisor: Christina Mathieu
• Meetings: As announced

Explore the world of fashion in this club open to students in grades 9-12.

History Club
• Advisors: Tara Halliday & Autumn Wallace
• Meetings: Monthly

The History Club’s goal is to explore issues in World and American history through activities, movies, trips and discussions. Come and promote a deeper understanding of the world around us. Available to all high school students.

Impressions
• Advisor: Tina Mathieu
• Meetings: Every other Monday

The Impressions staff helps design and create the high school literary magazine. Any student can join the staff, and all students (grades K-12) are encouraged to submit their poetry, stories, tributes and artwork to the magazine. The Impressions staff chooses what will be published and is responsible for the design and production of the magazine. At the end of the year, it’s printed and distributed to students and staff.

Mock Trial Team
• Advisor: Katie Bartone
• Meetings: As announced

The Mock Trial Team is for students interested in law, the judicial system and related careers. Team members are presented with a court case by the New York State Bar Association, which they break down into what each side needs to prove to win and the types of evidence added by each witness. The team then agrees on which members will be lawyers, who will be witnesses and who will assist the team.

Each side in the case then formulates their courtroom strategy, and team members then practice, practice and practice. Beginning in mid-January, Mohonasen’s team competes against others from Schenectady County schools. A regular competition season schedule is followed by playoffs, which are held as a single elimination tournament.

Mohon Masque
• Director: Kathleen Derochie
  Assistant: Nicole Gabriel
• Meetings: As announced

“All the world’s a stage” – at least that’s what many aspiring actors and actresses might believe. Mohon Masque generally puts on two plays each year – one in late fall/early winter and a major musical production in the spring. Mohon Masque has a reputation for
putting on outstanding performances with excellent attendance from loyal fans in the community.

Tryouts and rehearsals are announced at least a week in advance to give students time to prepare. Even if acting, singing and dancing aren’t for you, there are many other ways to get involved in the plays. Directing, stage crew, set building, costumes, fund-raising and lighting are just a few of the behind the scenes opportunities for students.

**Odyssey of the Mind**
- Advisor: Jason Varga
- Meetings: Each team sets its own schedule and works with a volunteer coach

Creative problem-solving comes from teamwork, cooperation and risk-taking. That’s the principle behind Odyssey of the Mind, an international problem-solving competition that is both fun and challenging.

Students team up to work on one of several open-ended problems that the international OM organization poses each year. For example, one problem may require students to build a structure that meets specific guidelines... Another problem may require a theatrical solution that is written and performed by students.

The problems are the same for all teams but the solutions vary based on the innovation of the students involved. There is a regional competition each spring and, depending on how students score, they may proceed to the state level or beyond.

**Olympics of the Visual Arts (OVA)**
- Advisor: Christina Mathieu
- Meetings: Weekly, then daily

OVA is a group of students who participate in a competition about fashion. The challenge is released in January as the students meet weekly, then every day as the competition gets closer come April. The students create themed dresses made entirely out of paper, then model the dress on the runway for the judges, competing against schools across the state.

**Peers for Peace**
- Advisor: Diane Blinn
- Meetings: Bi-weekly

Peers for Peace Diversity Club is a group committed to building a welcoming community for all students by addressing issues of intolerance. During bi-weekly meetings, club members will work together to plan school activities that promote tolerance and acceptance of all people throughout the school. New members are always welcome!

**Peer Mediation**
- Advisors: Rebecca Pauley & Diane Blinn
- Meetings: Announced in advance

Student mediators are trained to help other students resolve conflicts in a constructive, non-violent fashion. Any student can request mediation at any time during the school year. Peer mediators sit down with the students who are in conflict and help them identify the source of the problem and find lasting solutions that satisfy both parties.

Students who are interested in becoming peer mediators must attend 12 hours of training. It is a worthwhile experience for any student – particularly those interested in counseling or law careers.

**Robotics Club**
- Advisor: George Reluzco
- Meetings: Weekly

The high school Robotics Club is open to students in grades 9-12. The club is part of the high school robotics team, the MohonBots. This team has been active in the FIRST Tech Challenge robotics competition since the 2010-11 season. The MohonBots have won many awards and competitions.

The goals of the Robotics Club are: to develop students skills and interest in robotics, STEM, teamwork and collaboration, and leadership; to support the efforts of the robotics team; to develop future leaders of the robotics team; and, to participate in community outreach activities aimed at increasing interest and awareness of robotics and STEM fields.

**Science Club**
- Advisor: Jennifer Gribben
- Meetings: Monthly, as announced

The Mohonasen Science Club provides students with an opportunity to participate in science outside of the typical classroom setting. The club creates a forum for scientific discussion and hands-on science activities. Planned activities include area hikes/trips, spearheading recycling efforts, sponsoring guest speakers on science topics, cleaning up Mohonasen and an annual year-end trip/event.

– Continued on next page
Science Olympiad
- Advisor: Dawn Aulita
- Meetings: As announced

The Science Olympiad is a team of students who compete against other school districts. Students meet to develop their skills in different areas of science for the competition. The Science Olympiad is open to all students grades 9-12 with an interest in scientific competition. The team participates in three mini-olympiads in preparation for the regional competition in February.

Ski & Snowboard Club
- Advisor: Robert Buehler/Fred Saccocio
- Skiing: January through March

Whether you’re an old pro or completely new to the sport, the Ski & Snowboard Club offers a chance to have fun at a sport you’ll enjoy for years. Members will go skiing and/or snowboarding at various mountains in the Northeast from January into March. You can sign up for lessons and rent equipment – or bring your own gear and just plan on hitting the slopes with your friends. Round-trip transportation is provided and membership is open to students in grades 6-12.

Student Senate
- Advisors: Priscilla Perry
- Meetings: As announced

Student Senate is open to students in grades 9-12. Promoting student leadership and providing community service are the main goals of Mohonasen’s Student Senate. Officers are elected at the start of each school year for president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, representatives to the Board of Education and class officers for each grade. The Student Senate sponsors two blood drives every year, the Band Jam during Respect Week at the high school and a holiday food drive.

Technology Club
- Advisor: Robert Buehler
- Meetings: Bi-weekly

The Technology Club is open to students in grades 9-12. Examples of club activities include: constructing and programming Boebots™, flying remote-controlled airplanes, and projects to benefit the community and the school. The Technology Club’s mission statement is: “As members of the Technology Club, we strive to expand our knowledge beyond the course curriculums through various hands-on projects. By applying our acquired knowledge, we hope to partake in activities that serve to improve our school and community.”

Totem – School Yearbook
- Advisors: Stephanie Arnold
- Meetings: As announced

Members of the yearbook staff work hard all year to create a great record of memories and noteworthy events of the year. Jobs include photography, layout and design, caption writing and information gathering. Joining the yearbook staff can be lots of fun – but it’s also lots of work. There are strict deadlines to meet and priorities to be set. The yearbook staff always has a great time, and all the hard work and persistence pays off at the end of the year when the finished product is printed and distributed.
**CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER**

Any change of telephone number must be reported to the Counseling and Career Center (356-8322). For obvious reasons, the school must have a daytime phone number where parents can be reached in the event of an emergency. Any change of address must be reported to the district Registrar, and three proofs of residency must be submitted. To make an appointment with the registrar, please call 518-356-8222. To learn more, visit the Register a Student page at [www.mohonasen.org](http://www.mohonasen.org).

**CHROMEBOOKS FOR ALL**

Mohonasen continues to evolve its classrooms into digital classrooms and enhance personalized instruction. The District has adopted a 1:1 Chromebook Initiative, which will provide a Chromebook to every Draper Middle School and Mohonasen High School student for 2018-2019. Each Chromebook includes the full Google Suite of products, allowing students to use the technology and tools both in the classroom and outside, such as for research and homework assignments.

These devices will be issued at the beginning of the school year and will be taken home by students. Students have been encouraged to keep the Chromebooks over the summer as well.

Individual school Chromebooks and accessories (charger and case) must be returned to the school at the end of each school year. Students whose enrollment is withdrawn or terminated at Mohonasen for any reason must return their individual school Chromebook on the date of termination. If a student fails to return the Chromebook at the end of the school year or upon termination of enrollment at Mohonasen, the student will pay the replacement cost of the Chromebook and/or accessories.

**CLOSINGS & DELAYS**

The superintendent of schools may close schools or dismiss students and staff early when hazardous weather or an unexpected emergency threatens health or safety.

School closing and delayed starting times will be reported to local television and radio stations.

Closing information is also posted on the school district website ([www.mohonasen.org](http://www.mohonasen.org)) and Facebook page. E-mail and text message alerts are also sent out through the School News Notifier (SNN) system. To sign up to receive SNN alerts, visit [www.mohonasen.org](http://www.mohonasen.org). The district will also be introducing a new emergency notification system called School Messenger, which will replace SNN. Watch for more information about School Messenger this fall.

Parents are asked to avoid calling the school office for this information in order to keep phone lines open.

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

In compliance with the state’s Safe Schools Against Violence (SAVE) legislation and the Dignity for All Students Act, the Mohonasen Board of Education has adopted a Code of Conduct (i.e., rules and regulations) for all people on school property.

This districtwide Code of Conduct was developed in consultation with teachers, parents, students, administrators and other school/community representatives and is updated annually. It is available online at [www.mohonasen.org](http://www.mohonasen.org) or in the high school main office.

Mohonasen’s Code of Conduct sets high standards for student conduct and academic integrity. The Code of Conduct outlines clear consequences for students who break the rules. It specifically addresses consequences for infractions such as bullying, intimidation, harassment, swearing, plagiarism and cheating. The Code of Conduct also outlines the student Dress Code and Electronics Policy, as well as what is expected of students involved in extracurricular activities.

The Code of Conduct will serve as a standard for consistency and fairness that protects students’ rights while promoting responsibility. We are committed to holding high academic standards of integrity.

Parents play an important role in the maintenance of good discipline in Mohonasen schools. Parents are encouraged to review the Code of Conduct and discuss it with their children on a regular basis.

Parents should encourage students to be “school ready” every day. This includes ensuring students arrive on time, dress appropriately, bring all needed materials and present an attitude of respect. It is essential that parents contact the school with any information that can help avoid problems during the school day.

**Classroom Rules:**

Students are expected to follow four basic rules:

1. Students will arrive to class on time.
2. Students will bring all necessary materials to class.
3. Students will complete all assignments on time to the best of their ability.
4. Students will behave in a manner which is not disruptive.

**COMPUTER USE CODE**

Mohonasen High School has technology resources that those at many high schools can only dream of. Students have ready access to computers and other technology in their regular classrooms, the library and in multiple computer labs throughout the school.

Student use of these computers and other learning technologies is contingent upon them abiding by the district’s acceptable use policy.

All students are strongly advised to abide by the rules spelled out — Continued on next page
in the Computer Use Code. It is very simple for network administrators to pinpoint misuse of computers – down to which computer; at what time and who was using it. So do yourself a favor and don’t horse around on the school computers.

**DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS**

New York State’s Dignity for All Students Act (The Dignity Act) took effect on July 1, 2012. Just as with the district’s Code of Conduct, the new law seeks to provide the State’s public elementary and secondary school students with a safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying (including cyberbullying) on school property, a school bus and/or at a school function. The Dignity Act includes, but is not limited to, acts of discrimination and harassment based on a student’s race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex.

School officials understand the impact bullying and harassment can have on a school environment. More than a physical threat, bullying creates a climate of fear and makes learning difficult for all students. The new law calls for each school to appoint a Dignity Act Coordinator who is trained to address issues in areas protected by the law and is accessible to the school community. The Dignity Act Coordinators at Mohonasen are the principals of each school.

**FIELD TRIPS**

Students must have prior written approval from a parent or guardian for all school sponsored field trips. A permission form must be obtained from the teacher coordinating the trip, signed and returned to the school prior to the trip. Additionally, in order to participate in field trips, students must have on file with the school nurse a Student Health Card and the Field Trip/Medical Emergency form.

Keep in mind that participation in field trips is a privilege, not a right, and may be revoked based on behavior; attendance or school performance. Students are representatives of their school while on field trips and should behave accordingly by following all school rules. Students are responsible for making up any missed coursework while on a trip.

**FORMAL AND SEMI-FORMAL DANCES**

Mohonasen High School has a series of formal and semi-formal dances for students. Eligibility for formal dances is contingent upon maintaining an acceptable academic and behavioral record throughout the year.

Students are permitted to bring guests to these dances from outside the Mohonasen community. Any student wishing to bring a guest must fill out a guest form (available in advance of ticket sales). Mohonasen High School administration reserves the right to deny attendance to any individual based on concern about student safety or behavior. Guests must be in high school and under the age of 21. Appeals to this policy must be placed in writing and submitted to the superintendent of schools no later than 14 days prior to the scheduled event.

**GRADUATION SPEECHES**

Each spring, a contest is held to select seniors to speak at the high school graduation ceremony in June. All seniors are eligible to compete for this honor. Working with a faculty member of their choosing, students write their speech and then present it before a panel of judges comprised of various community members. Students who are not selected to address their peers at graduation are eligible to speak at the senior breakfast.

**GRAPHING CALCULATORS**

Graphing calculators are used regularly in high school math classes, on tests and for homework. The State Education Department requires the use of a graphing calculator on the Common Core Algebra, Common Core Geometry and Algebra 2/Trigonometry Regents Exams.

Mohonasen has a limited supply of graphing calculators for student use in classrooms and on tests. Homework will also be assigned that requires their use to reinforce concepts and complete assignments.

Toward that end, the math department strongly recommends that all students purchase the Texas Instruments TI-83 PLUS, TI-84 PLUS or TI-Nspire graphing calculator which retail for about $100. It is a worthy investment that can be used in all high school math and science classes – as well as in college.

**LATE ARRIVAL/EARLY DISMISSAL**

Seniors in good standing may be eligible to arrive late or leave early from school if their schedule permits. This privilege may be revoked at any time if academic, attendance or behavioral concerns arise. Students must complete an application form to determine eligibility. Forms are available in the main office.

Interested seniors should contact their school counselor for more information.

**LOCKERS**

Student lockers are the property of the district and, like textbooks, are loaned to students for their use during the school year.

To ensure student health and safety, the school reserves the right to inspect locker contents. This inspection may include, but is not limited to, locker clean out days, the use of trained drug dogs and individual locker inspections.

Students should not store valuables in their lockers. Be sure your locker is closed and locked before you leave it. The school district...
is not responsible for items reported missing from student lockers. Students are to use only the locker assigned to them and are to keep their locker clean and undamaged.

Make sure you’ve cleaned out your locker at the end of the school year by the deadline stated on the morning announcements. After that time, all lockers will be emptied and your personal items will be relocated to a central “lost and found” box. (Hint: You’d be surprised how many students don’t pay attention to the end-of-year deadline and then end up digging through mountains of abandoned “stuff” for a beloved coat… CD… pair of shoes… etc.)

All students are responsible for leaving their lockers in the same condition as they were in the beginning of the year. Students who deface their lockers will be required to return their locker to its original condition or pay for damages.

**Gym Lockers**

A gym locker and lock will be assigned to students for all four years of high school. Students will be charged a $5 replacement fee if a lock is lost and needs to be replaced. This deposit will be returned when the lock is returned at the end of the student’s senior year or when he or she leaves Mohonasen.

Personal locks are not permitted. During the summer, gym lockers will be left open with the locks attached. As with regular hallway lockers, students should not store anything valuable in their gym lockers.

**LOST AND FOUND**

Any student who has lost, or believes his/her property has been stolen, should report this to the main office. School officials will make a reasonable attempt to find lost or stolen property, but the district is not responsible for its replacement. Students who find property belonging to someone else are asked to bring it to the main office.

**MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Each day during homeroom period, morning announcements give students valuable information about things like: athletic team tryouts, club activities, scholarship information, various application deadlines, social activities and more. Have a pencil ready to jot down notes!

In addition, the morning announcements are posted online at www.mohonasen.org.

Students attending a morning program at the Capital Region BOCES Career and Technical School will need to show extra initiative since they will miss these announcements. They are strongly encouraged to stop down to the main office on a daily basis to read the announcements or visit the Mohonasen website where they are posted daily.

**PASSES**

Any student in the hall during classes is required to have a proper pass, issued and signed by a staff member. It is each student’s responsibility to obtain a pass when traveling the halls. We will continue to use agenda passbooks for this purpose. Students are required to present their pass whenever asked by a staff member. Students stopped in the hallway without a pass will be reported to the front desk. Multiple offenses will result in detention.

**PHONE CALLS**

In the event of an emergency, parents should contact the school office or attendance office if they need to get a message to their child. But please limit such requests to emergencies only to avoid disruptions to classrooms. Parents should not call or text students on personal cell phones during the school day as this causes a disruption and may result in student discipline.

**PUBLIC CONCERNS**

Public concerns about any facet of school operations should generally follow a chain of command, starting with the person closest to the source of the complaint.

In most instances, concerns will be directed to the building principal or his/her assistant if the matter cannot first be resolved by the teacher, coach or other staff member involved.

If an issue is not satisfactorily resolved at the building level, the concern may be carried to the superintendent of schools or one of her assistants.

**SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO)**

Thanks to a partnership with the Rotterdam Police Department, a uniformed police officer works full-time at the high school when school is in session. Mohonasen High School’s SRO provides a visible law enforcement presence on the campus. He is also a resource for students, parents, faculty and staff. The SRO is involved in counseling, teaching, participation in extracurricular activities as well as safety and security issues. His office is located in the lobby outside the high school gym.

**SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS**

Due to the varied course offerings at the high school, a list of the school supplies required for each course will be provided by each teacher when classes begin.

If purchasing school supplies is a financial hardship, please contact your child’s school counselor.
SECURITY CAMERAS IN OUR BUILDINGS

Surveillance cameras to help deter violence and vandalism are in place in all Mohonasen schools.

These closed-circuit TV cameras monitor student activity in high-traffic areas both inside and outside of our schools. Security cameras record people as they enter and exit each building and sensors notify staff when there has been an unauthorized entry at selected doors. (There are no surveillance cameras in student bathrooms or physical education locker rooms.)

The presence of cameras is designed to serve as an added deterrent to fights and other misbehavior, vandalism and violence. Video recordings also provide powerful evidence in disciplinary or criminal investigations.

SENIOR PRIVILEGES/EVENTS

Students designated as seniors are eligible for various privileges including accessing the courtyard during study hall and applying for a late arrival or early dismissal (schedule permitting), as well as the opportunity to attend special events such as the senior picnic. These opportunities are in place to honor the maturity of students during this transitional year and are afforded to students in good academic standing (passing all classes required for graduation). Students failing to maintain this standard risk losing their privileges and will be unable to attend these special events. Eligibility for prom/ball is contingent upon maintaining an acceptable academic and behavioral record throughout the year.

SOCIAL WORK/STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELOR

The school social workers collaborate with teachers, administrators, students and families, and interface with community-based providers to respond to and support student’s social, emotional and behavioral needs. Social work at school is purposefully short term. Through individual and small-group counseling, referrals to outside agencies, individualized programs and crisis intervention, the social workers address the needs of students to promote their social-emotional progress. The social workers are also responsible for providing social-work services to students who have counseling on their Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Mohonasen also has a student assistance counselor who is available to help students who are dealing with personal problems such as depression, drug or alcohol abuse, a family crisis, etc.

Students may contact the social workers or student assistance counselor directly or they may be referred to him/her by a parent or other school personnel. Parents can also call the Counseling and Career Center for information and referrals to community and social service programs.

STUDENT BOARD OF EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVES

Each spring two juniors are elected to represent their senior classmates as representatives to the Board of Education. Students work closely with student groups and high school administrators to develop culture and programs at the high school. The Board representatives attend monthly board meetings to present on issues and events occurring at the high school.

STUDENT ID’S

All high school students are issued a Mohonasen Student Identification Card from the company that takes student pictures each year. This ID may be required at school dances so it’s a good idea to keep it in a safe and accessible location. Student IDs are also required for all students taking SAT and ACT exams.

STUDENT PARKING PRIVILEGES

Students with a valid driver’s license who wish to apply for a parking permit should request an application from the SRO when they become available in September. A non-refundable fee of $5 is required to receive a permit. As spaces are limited, permits are granted first to seniors and then to juniors. Within each grade level, permits are granted on a lottery basis. Eligible students who do not receive permits are placed on a waiting list and granted a space when one becomes available. Sophomores and freshmen are not permitted to drive to school.

Students should be aware that student parking is a privilege, not a right. Chronic attendance problems and/or disciplinary issues will result in suspension/revocation of parking privileges. Students may park only in their designated space in the student parking lot. Cars parked in areas other than the student lot or on campus without a valid parking permit may be towed at the owners expense. Students are not allowed to return to their car during the school day without prior permission. Sitting, eating or smoking in the vehicle – even during lunch periods – is strictly prohibited during the school day. Student drivers are expected to abide by the 15 m.p.h. speed limit on school property and report to homeroom by 7:38 a.m.

STUDENT RECORDS

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) gives parents (not step-parents) and students over 18 years of age the following rights:

1. The right to inspect and review your (or your child’s) education records within 45 days of the day the district receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the building principal a written request that identifies the records
they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify you of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of your (or your child's) education records that you believe are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask the district to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading by writing the principal, clearly identifying the part of the record they want changed, and specifying why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the district decides not to amend the record as requested, it will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment.

Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided at this same time.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in your (or your child's) education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

Release of Student Directory Information

From time to time, student directory information is published on the Mohonasen website, in school publications or released to the media to recognize student achievement or depict activities of the Mohonasen School District. Parents who object to the disclosure of their child's directory information should notify both the superintendent of schools and their child's building principal, in writing, on or before September 15 of each school year. For more details, see the “release of directory information” notice on the district website at www.mohonasaen.org.

Release of Student Information to the Military and Institutions of Higher Learning

In accordance with federal legislation, schools are required to release student names, addresses and phone numbers to military recruiters and/or institutions of higher education unless the student's parent(s) have notified the child's school principal, in writing, that they do not want this information released. Notification must be received on or before October 1 in any given school year.

STUDENT TRANSFERS

If a student is going to transfer to another school district, parents should notify the current school counselor as far in advance as possible. Early notice will help make the transition smoother for all concerned. School records need to be transferred and processed and schedules need to be adapted when students leave one school for another. Whenever possible, it's best to time the move to coincide with the end of a marking period or the beginning of a new school year.

SWIMMING POOL

Students can take advantage of a growing number of pool programs and courses. For example, students can take lifeguarding courses at Mohonasen. Once they receive their certification, students age 15 and older can be employed as lifeguards at the pool – a fun and lucrative part-time job!

Students can also participate in the early morning lap swim or open swim sessions for just $2. A calendar of pool classes is posted on the district website (swimming pool pages). Students on the boys' and girls' swim teams also use the pool for practice and meets.

Mohonasen’s Aquatics Department is looking at adding new and more specialized classes so listen to the morning announcements, check the bulletin board at the entrance to the pool or visit the website for the latest offerings and opportunities.

TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks and, in certain cases, other school supplies and materials, are provided to students on a loan basis. Such property is generally intended for use by a number of students over a period of years and should not be abused. All textbooks are to be covered.

Many of the new textbook companies now offer companion websites and Web-based tutorials to help students succeed. When in doubt, ask the teacher for the Web address and (in some cases) the required password for accessing these added resources.

Students are responsible for the return of all loaned property. Each book is checked by the teacher when issued and its number and condition are registered upon student receipt. With reasonable care, books can be returned in June in about the same condition as when issued. If a book is lost or damaged, the student will be required to pay a fee based on the cost and condition of the book when issued.
VISITORS TO THE HIGH SCHOOL

For security reasons, all visitors during school hours are required to present a valid photo ID to be scanned and receive a visitor’s pass. This includes parents. Student visitors are not permitted during the school day and there is a single point of entry for all students arriving at school in the morning.

WORKING PAPERS

Any student under the age of 18 who wants to work must first get working papers from the Counseling and Career Center. This requires a parent’s written permission to work, proof of age and a certificate of physical fitness. “Blue cards” are issued for students under the age of 16. When students turn 16 they must reapply for “green card” working papers.

The following laws apply to underage workers:

• 12- and 13-year-olds can hand-harvest fruits and vegetables up to four hours/week and can work as newspaper carriers (ages 11+).

• 14- and 15-year-olds can work for three hours on a school day and eight hours Saturday, Sunday and holidays – up to an 18-hour work week. During the summer, they can work from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

• At age 16, teens can work four hours per day, Monday through Thursday, and eight hours per day Fridays, weekends or holidays. They can work up to 28 hours per week, between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. With parental permission, they can work until midnight on Fridays and Saturdays.

• No minor can work in the construction industry, and teens are not permitted to operate machinery that could prove dangerous.

• Teens must be paid minimum wage.

Teens and parents should be mindful that while working offers a number of clear benefits, studies show that working 15 hours or more each week during the school year often requires students to sacrifice sleep, homework and family time.

Bottom line? School should be the number-one priority. That said, students who are looking for work can check out the JOB BOARD in the Counseling and Career Center.

Students should also keep in mind that employers will often call the high school to request school attendance reports before deciding whether or not to hire that person. (Another reason why good school attendance counts!)
**The Food Service Program**

It’s a fact. Students who are well-nourished are shown to have increased problem-solving abilities, memory, verbal fluency and creativity.

With that in mind, Mohonasen offers a food service program at the high school that is designed to fuel learning AND offering a variety of choices that appeal to teens.

**HOW MUCH DOES BREAKFAST & LUNCH COST?**

High school students are offered full breakfast for $1.75 in Cafeteria B. School lunches at the high school cost $3.25

Students can pay for meals as they go. They can also pay $65 up front, which gives them 20 prepaid lunches – plus one free one. To prepay, parents can mail a check to the Mohonasen Food Service Program at 2072 Curry Road, Schenectady, NY 12303 or they can send payment to school with their teen. Parents can also prepay online at www.PayPAMS.com.

Students are given a pin-number to type into a computer keypad as they go through the cafeteria line and the cost of the meal is automatically deducted from their account. Pin numbers are the same from year to year except for incoming ninth graders, who will receive a pin number on the first day.

**HOW HEALTHY ARE SCHOOL MEALS?**

Today’s school meals are lower in fat and provide well-balanced servings from each food group. School lunches provide half of the recommended dietary allowances for calories, protein and vitamins A and C, iron and calcium.

Now, as a result of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act, championed by former First Lady Michelle Obama and signed into law by President Obama in 2010, new school meal standards are taking effect that are designed to make them healthier than ever. According to the US Department of Agriculture, school meals must adhere to strict calorie limits, schools must serve a greater amount of fruits and vegetables, and there are limits to the amount of breads/grains served.

In addition, under the new law, all students MUST take a vegetable or a fruit with each meal.

As the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act continues to be implemented, you will see changes to foods and beverages sold during the school day. This includes food sold in vending machines, a la carte, school stores, snack carts and in-school fundraising.

Students who are well-nourished are better prepared to learn. By implementing consistent nutrition standards throughout all corners of the school building, we believe it will improve the overall health and well-being of our students.

For more information on the new meal standards, visit http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov or www.mohonasen.org/food-service-program.

**DISTRICT MEAL CHARGING POLICY**

It is the District’s goal to provide students with access to nutritious no- or low-cost meals each school day and to ensure that a student whose parent/guardian has unpaid meal charges is not shamed or treated differently than a student whose parent/guardian does not have unpaid meal charges.

Unpaid meal charges place a financial burden on the district. The purpose of the district policy is to ensure compliance with federal requirements for the USDA Child Nutrition Program and to provide oversight and accountability for the collection of outstanding student meal balances to ensure that the student is not stigmatized, distressed, or embarrassed. The intent of this policy is to establish procedures to address unpaid meal charges throughout the District in a way that does not stigmatize, distress, or embarrass students.

The provisions of this policy pertain to regular priced reimbursable school breakfast, lunch and snack meals only. Charging of items outside of the reimbursable meals (a la carte – or “snack” – items, adult meals, etc.) is prohibited.

For details on specific charging policies at the elementary, middle school and high school levels, please visit the district website at mohonasen.org.

**FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS**

Students may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals if their families meet federal guidelines. The application takes only minutes to fill out and can be done at any time during the school year. Beginning July 1, 2019, students approved for reduced price meals will receive breakfast and lunch at no charge.

Students are given pin numbers just like everyone else so their peers and food service workers are not aware which students are receiving free or discounted meals.

A copy of the application is mailed out each summer. The application can also be obtained by calling the food service office at 518-356-8225 or online at www.mohonasen.org. A new application must be completed for the current school year. All previous applications expire on Sept. 30.

**PAY FOR BREAKFAST OR LUNCHES ONLINE USING PAYPAMS**

Parents can pay for their child’s meals from the comfort of their own home using PayPAMS – an online service that lets you pre-pay for meals online. With PayPAMS parents can also view and manage their child’s meal account, schedule automatic payments and view a report of daily spending and cafeteria purchases for free.

Health Services
A full-time registered nurse is on staff at the high school to serve student health needs, along with a part-time health office assistant.

**ACCIDENT INSURANCE**
Mohonasen provides supplemental student accident insurance that serves as secondary coverage. Benefits will not be paid for medical expenses covered by a student's primary insurer. In order to receive benefits from Mohonasen's student accident policy, parents must first submit all medical bills to their own health insurance carrier. If no health insurance exists, the district has elected to self-fund the $100 deductible for this coverage. Insurance forms are available in the nurse's office.

**HEALTH CARDS**
At the start of each school year a Student Health Card is sent home for parents/guardians to fill out and return "ASAP" to the school. Students will not be able to take part in off-campus field trips and sports if these cards are not returned.

The information on this card is kept on file in the nurse's office throughout the year. It includes emergency contact numbers for parents and medical information concerning each student. Parents are urged to call the school nurse immediately if any of this information changes during the school year.

**ILLNESS**
Students who get sick or injured during the school day need to report to the school nurse before calling or texting a parent to come get them or leaving school on their own. These students must be released by the school nurse.

**IMMUNIZATIONS**
Please note New York State now requires all students entering 7th and 12th grade to be vaccinated against meningococcal disease. For more information, visit www.mohonasen.org/meningitisvaccination/ or contact the school nurse at (518) 356-8310.

**MEDICATIONS IN SCHOOL**
Students, with the exception of diabetics, may not have ANY medication (prescription or over the counter) on their possession during the school day (i.e., not in pockets, lunch boxes, backpacks, lockers, etc.). The only medication exceptions are an asthma inhaler or Epi-Pen, which may be carried by the student if they have a physician order and parent consent, along with the approval of the school nurse.

The following guidelines must be met before administering any medication during school hours:
- All over the counter and prescription medication, as well as any herbal supplements, must be brought to school by a parent or responsible adult in the original labeled container (prescription medication must be in a pharmacy labeled container). Stock Acetaminophen and Ibuprofen are available in the nurse's office and can be given by the school nurse with a physician order unless the parent chooses to provide the student's own Acetaminophen/Ibuprofen. All other over the counter medication must be provided by the parent.
- A written physician order including name, dose, duration, and reason for prescribing the medication and possible adverse reactions.
- A written note from parent/guardian giving the school nurse permission to administer the medication as prescribed by the physician.
- Any discontinued or unused medication will be disposed of at the end of the school year if not picked up by the parent by the last day of school.
- All medication orders must be renewed by the physician each school year.

**SCHOOL PHYSICALS**
New students to the district, as well as students entering the 10th grade, shall submit a health physical certificate signed by a licensed physician. This certificate shall be submitted within 30 days of entrance into the district or within 30 days after his/her entrance into 10th grade. Such examination shall be accepted if it is administered not more than 12 months prior to commencement of the school year in which it is required. If the student does not submit a current physical from his/her own physician, a free school physical will be scheduled during the school year in the nurse's office with the school physician.

Please use the Mohonasen Health Physical Form Grades 6-12, which is available on our website, www.mohonasen.org/forms.

**SPORTS PHYSICALS**
Parent Organizations

Participation in parent organizations at Mohonasen is a natural way to stay connected to your teen. It’s also a way to get involved in some of the many fun and worthwhile activities that these groups support. Get involved and you’ll also get to know your teen’s friends – and their parents – a little better, too!

★ BAND BOOSTERS

The Mohonasen Band Boosters is a parent organization that raises funds to support the activities of the Mohonasen High School Marching Band. Among the yearly activities that the group sponsors is the Home Show field competition in the fall and the Brooks Barbecue fund-raiser in May. The group also sponsors a midyear band banquet. The group generally meets immediately following the Music Parents monthly meetings.

★ MUSIC PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The Mohonasen Music Parents Association is a parent group that supports ALL student musical performing groups in the district.

The group helps plan and chaperone the big spring field trip/competition for the Marching Band and Color Guard.

Music Parents also helps organize the Strawberry Festival in June, helps with the annual concerts and awards a variety of music scholarships each year. Members of Music Parents also chaperone at events where the band plays – from local parades to out-of-state competitions.

The group meets monthly during the school year. Check the district calendar for dates and times.

Students with Disabilities

Like all high schools, students with disabilities are actively involved throughout Mohonasen. They enjoy the same challenges and opportunities as their peers. They frequently receive additional services or participate in special programs to accommodate their disabilities while facilitating their success in school and life.

What follows is a brief explanation of some of Mohonasen’s programs, plans and resources for students with disabilities. For more information, call the Director for Special and Alternative Education at (518) 356-8221.

★ CONSULTANT TEACHERS

Since the goal is to provide a quality education in the least restrictive environment, most students with disabilities learn side-by-side with their peers in general education classrooms. Consultant teachers are special education teachers who work with the regular classroom teacher to help “integrated” students find success in the general education environment. Consultant teachers, for example, may co-teach lessons, restructure assignments, provide special accommodations and follow-up with students and teachers after class.

★ RESOURCE ROOM

Special education teachers are available to meet with students in small groups outside the general education classrooms to make sure students receive the supplemental supports needed to meet high academic standards. The nature of these supports is spelled out in each student’s Individual Education Plan (IEP).

The resource room is staffed by special education teachers who provide additional instruction to strengthen the skills of disabled students. Resource room teachers also work closely with students’ regular classroom teachers to provide students with necessary accommodations and modifications.

★ SPECIAL CLASS

While all students with disabilities are encouraged to participate in general education classes, for some this environment proves to be very restrictive. Some students require the additional support and structure of special classes designed to address their unique instructional needs. These classes have low student-to-teacher ratios and allow for more individualized instruction.

★ INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLAN (IEP)

The Committee on Special Education must develop an Individual Education Plan (IEP) for all students who are eligible for special education services.

In developing the IEP, the committee considers evaluations, student strengths, concerns of the parent and, where appropriate, student performance on state and district assessments.

An IEP documents the following: present level of performance; how the student’s disability impacts his/her participation in the general curriculum; classification of the disability; annual goals; recommended programs and services; whether or not the student will participate in state or alternate assessments; a list of any alternative accommodations; a list of any assistive technology devices; and transitional goals at the appropriate time.
NON-REGENTS (LOCAL) DIPLOMA OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The State Education Department has ruled that the local diploma will be available to students with disabilities. These students must still take the five required Regents exams. However, if they fail to pass one or more exams, students with disabilities who score a 55-64 would then qualify for a local diploma. This “safety net” applies to any student who has been identified through the Committee on Special Education (CSE) or through documentation on a Section 504 by a Multidisciplinary Team. It is also available to students with disabilities who have been “declassified” in grades 8-12, if recommended and documented by a CSE.

As of July 1, 2014, students with disabilities may also qualify for two exiting credentials: the Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential, or New York State Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential.

PROGRAM/TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS

Students with IEPs or 504 Plans often have testing or classroom accommodations as part of their high school program. Accommodations may include: additional time and alternative locations to take tests; and/or additional strategies for participating in class activities, for acquiring class notes or for completing homework. Testing accommodations are only valid as the result of a Committee on Special Education (CSE) recommendation or 504 Plan.

504 PLANS

“504 Plans” are developed to support students whose physical or medical needs have a significant negative impact on their success in school. Special accommodations are written into 504 Plans to ensure that students with disabilities receive a free and appropriate education – just as non-disabled students do. Accommodations, for example, may include providing additional time and alternative locations for tests or special strategies for participating in class activities. A 504 Plan is not the same as an IEP (Individual Education Plan), which is generally much more intensive.

PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING

At the request of the Pupil Study Team and/or the parent/guardian, a student can receive psychoeducational testing, which may include tests of ability and/or achievement level. A psychoeducational evaluation must be authorized by Mohonasen’s Office of Student Services. Testing is conducted by the school psychologist. Students with an IEP are required to receive an updated evaluation at least every three years.

TRANSITION PLANNING

All students age 15 and older who have a disability receive transitional planning as part of the annual review of the special education program. The student’s case manager, in consultation with the transition specialist, works annually with students and their families to address post-secondary education, employment and community living goals. As students move closer to graduation, a representative from Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES, formerly known as VESID) and other community-based services may be included in the process.

WEB RESOURCES

The Internet is a helpful source of information for parents and students who want to learn more about a particular disability, find resources, network with others, etc. What follows are a few sites that address some common disabilities:

- Adult Career & Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (formerly known as VESID) http://www.acces.nysed.gov
- Aspergers Syndrome Education Network http://www.aspennj.org
- Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder (CHADD): http://www.chadd.org
- Learning Disabilities http://www.ldonline.com
- National Attention Deficit Disorder Association http://www.add.org
- Center for Parent Information and Resources http://www.parentcenterhub.org/resources
- Obsessive-Compulsive Foundation https://iocdf.org/
- Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/index.html
Transportation Services

Mohonasen transports approximately 3,000 students over a half million miles each year. The Transportation Department works hard to provide safe and efficient service to all students.

Postcards are also sent out notifying students of their ASSIGNED bus stop. Students are asked to report to ONLY that stop. However, complete bus schedules are available by calling the transportation office (518-356-8260) or the superintendent’s office (518-356-8200).

Parents wishing to have their students picked up or dropped off at a location other than their home must complete a request form that can be found on the district website at www.mohonasen.org/transportation.

Please be patient during the first few weeks of school to allow drivers to adjust bus routes and times. Pick-up and drop-off times may vary 5-10 minutes either way.

If parents have a transportation-related issue or concern, it’s important they contact the transportation office (356-8260) or their child’s school directly rather than approaching a school bus driver.

### BUS RULES

The safety of all students is the district’s primary concern. All buses are school property and are subject to all rules set forth in the Code of Conduct. Each student has an individual responsibility to help ensure the safety of all students on the bus by following the rules.

Coming to school, going home and riding buses for extracurricular events or field trips, all students are expected to listen to and obey all instructions from transportation personnel and adhere to the following rules:

1. Behave in a safe and orderly manner at the bus stop/ bus port and on the bus.
2. Look both ways if crossing a road AND wait for the driver’s hand signal or directions before crossing.
3. Enter and exit the bus in an orderly fashion.
4. Ride in your seat, facing forward.

5. Keep the bus clean and free of litter.
6. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus at all times.
7. Be responsible for your own belongings.
8. Respect others’ property.
9. Speak quietly, using appropriate and respectful language.
10. Refrain from activities that may damage the bus.
11. Use of illegal substances (alcohol, tobacco, and drugs) is prohibited.
12. Refrain from bringing objects (such as skateboards, large musical instruments or school projects) onto the bus that may present a safety hazard.
13. Eating or drinking on the bus is not allowed. Many students have food allergies and food, etc., on the bus could cause a medical emergency.

The Code of Conduct spells out clear disciplinary procedures for students who violate bus rules. These rules are available on the district website.

### CHANGING BUS STOPS

If you want to request a change in an assigned bus stop, contact Mohonasen’s Transportation Department by phone at (518) 356-8260.

Mohonasen’s policy is to try to honor change requests to other existing bus stops – provided there is enough room on the bus. (For obvious safety reasons, the district’s goal is to have no students forced to stand on buses. During the first two weeks of school bus routes may be adjusted to meet this goal.)

For more information about Mohonasen's transportation department, please visit www.mohonasen.org/transportation