

Hello Parents and Guardians,

We have just completed our first five day week and it certainly feels like we are fully in session. Our sports teams are in action with their games and meets and our clubs are having their first meetings and planning their schedules and upcoming activities. Students are active in their classes and the learning process with in depth and rigorous discussions and activities, assignments, projects and assessments. It's an exciting time of the year!

This week marks the beginning of our second eight day academic cycle, as well as the first cycle of our Flex Block program, where students will schedule their four periods of Flex Block within the next eight days. Thus far we have heard positive feedback about the Flex Block and an eagerness amongst students for this next stage and the ability to schedule time with their classroom teachers.

A reminder that this **Thursday, September 19**, is our **Back To School Night**. All parents and guardians are invited to Stoneham High School to receive important information regarding each course of their student's schedule. Parents and guardians will follow an abbreviated schedule that will take you to each of your students classes where you will receive a course syllabus that will provide a course description, class and work expectations, grading policies, major assignments and assessments and teacher contact information. This event is not for individual meetings, but rather to provide you with vital information that will allow you to support and participate in your student's education. The **evening starts in the Auditorium at 6:30** for a brief welcome followed by a seven period schedule that will take you to all of your student's classes before we dismiss at 8:00pm. I look forward to seeing you Thursday evening. **Please write down or take a picture of your student's course schedule. Please be sure to include teacher name and classroom number.**

Also, this **Thursday, September 19**, from **6:00 - 6:30pm** in the Library there will be an **AP information session** for parents of students taking Advanced Placement courses. Session will discuss all things related to AP including recent updates and changes on curriculum and testing.

Upcoming Events

- **Senior Parent Night:**

Parents of seniors are invited to meet with their student's school counselor for an informational meeting regarding the college process and future planning. It will take place on Wednesday September 25th at 6:00. We will meet in the library for a brief welcome and overview of the night, then break into smaller groups, by counselor, and meet in classrooms.

- **Financial Aid Night:**

Parents and students are invited to attend a free seminar on paying for college, which will be held on Thursday October 3rd at 6:00 in the Cafeteria. An experienced MEFA representative from Tufts University Office of Financial Aid, will provide an overview of

the college financing process, including types of financial aid, how to apply, and financing options for your family. You can download a copy of the seminar presentation in English or Spanish and explore other tools and resources to assist you in the college planning process at mefa.org.

Newsworthy at SHS

- In case you missed it, there was a nice article in the Boston Globe on [9/10/19](#) recognizing two athletes from our Girls Varsity Soccer team and reporting on their success and their unique communication abilities.
- Three of our students, who last year participated in the 8th grade Project Lead the Way Automation and Robotics course and Mass STEM Hub's Design Showcase with the Peabody Essex Museum (PEM) have been invited to speak at this year's Project Lead the Way conference for their design of a pull toy utilizing VEX Robotics kits. Student teams were challenged to invent and build a pull toy using what they learned about simple machines and gear designs. The toys for this showcase were developed as part of a design challenge to create 21st century versions of vintage pull toys from PEM's collection. Their specific design enhanced a Ouija board by moving the Ouija planchette and having the candles turn; *"Mystical and magical, this recreated Ouija Board comes to life as candles rotate around the table. What will the spirits spell out next?"*
- Three Stoneham High School students received Commended Student status from National Merit Scholarship for their outstanding performance on the qualifying tests. These three students are among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2020 competition by taking the 2018 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). "Those being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success."

Stoneham Arts and Theatre

Support SHS Arts

Be sure to mark your calendars for our 2019-2020 Theatre Productions. Sure to be great shows!

- *Check Please*. Friday and Saturday, 11/14-15, SHS Auditorium at 7pm
- METG Drama Festival Competition Preliminary Round. Saturday, February 29. Time and location TBD
- *The Addams Family*. Friday, May 2, at 7pm and Saturday, May 3, at 1:00 and 7:00pm