

# MSSPA



MAIN STREET SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

## Senior/Parent Information Night September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011

# Graduating?

- You must have 56 credits, including everything listed on the Credit Check Worksheet
- You must have passed the Writing and Reading GRAD tests and either have passed the Math GRAD or have taken it 3 times.

## Graduation requirements: Are you on track?

English	8.0 Credits
Social Studies	8.0 Credits
Math	6.0 Credits
Science	6.0 Credits
Foreign Language	0.0 Credits
PE	1.0 Credits
Fine Arts	14.0 Credits
Additional	13.0 Credits
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>56.0 Credits</b>

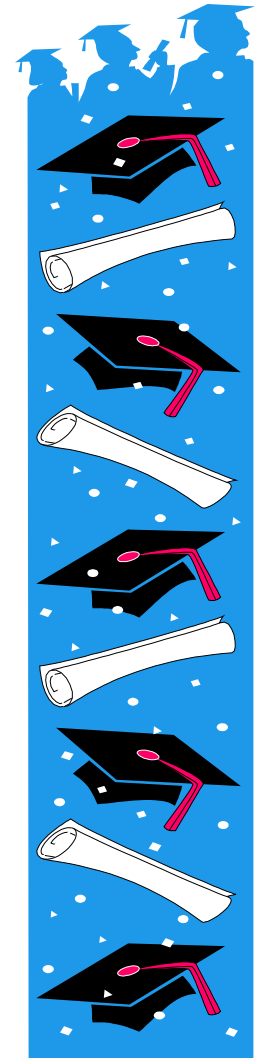
# Missing Credits?

- Any credits you are doing via Independent Study at another high school, online, etc. must be completed by December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Official transcripts documenting the completion of these credits must be turned in to Ms. Carlson by January 30<sup>th</sup>. Credits turned in after that point may not be counted towards graduation.

# LIFE AFTER MAIN STREET

## What are *your* plans?

- College/University
- Vocational or Technical College
- Military
- Job/Career
- “Gap” Year
- “I don’t have a clue!”



# Confused?

- Use online resources: Collegeboard.com, ACTstudent.org, individual college websites
- Use college resources: College visits to school, college fairs, call admissions representatives
- Meet with Ms. Carlson/Ms. Scalia!

# BE AWARE OF DEADLINES

- Senior year is all about DEADLINES – for college apps, financial aid & scholarships, changing courses, ordering your announcements, and completing all your requirements to GRADUATE!



# September

- Research any necessary audition requirements and dates/locations
- Register to retake ACT/SAT/Subject Tests
- Finalize your list of colleges & their app deadlines
- Finalize teacher/counselor recommendations
- Start working on your application essay
- Research scholarships

# ACT/SAT Tests

- ACT

Sept 10<sup>th</sup> –Deadline has passed

Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> –Register by Sept 16<sup>th</sup>

- SAT

Oct 1<sup>st</sup> —Register by Sept 9<sup>th</sup>

Nov 5<sup>th</sup> —Register by Oct 7<sup>th</sup>

*What is our School Code?*

241-157



# ACT/SAT Tests

- Go to [www.sat.collegeboard.com](http://www.sat.collegeboard.com) for SAT, or [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) for ACT to request scores to be mailed to colleges. Fee per request for this service
- **SAT Subject Tests:** It is your responsibility to check with your colleges to see what (if any) specific tests they require

# October

- Prepare Early Decision/Early Action applications and turn them in for November deadlines
- Polish your application essay
- Visit with College Representatives when they visit Main Street
- Attend College Receptions/Fairs

## November

- Turn in applications with December and January deadlines by Thanksgiving
- Keep working on finding scholarship opportunities.

## December

- Apply for a PIN number for the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

# The Application Process

You are responsible for:

- Application & Fee
- Essays (if required)
- Having ACT/SAT scores sent to colleges
- Getting Teacher to complete recommendation letter (provide a stamped, addressed envelope)
- Requesting a transcript, midyear report and final transcript as needed
- Verifying that all information, including transcript, arrived at the admissions office

# The Application Process

MSSPA is responsible for:

- Sending requested transcripts within 2 weeks of request date

# Transcripts

- \$4 each
- Official or Unofficial
- Includes Mid-Year Transcripts
- All fees must be paid before Senior Check-Out

# Requesting Transcripts

- Complete transcript request form.
- Attach any counselor forms.
  - Fill out the entire Student Section of any paperwork – forms must have your name on them!

# Teacher Recommendations

- Choose a teacher who “knows you”, not just one whose class you got an “A” in.
- Ask teachers for letters early so they have time to create a well-written letter.
- Submit an activities resume, and a stamped, addressed envelope for each letter you need.
- Check back with teachers to verify that they have indeed written and mailed the requested letters.

# For Priority Consideration

- **U of M – Twin Cities**
  - October 2011 – Application review begins
  - December 15, 2011 – Application priority deadline
- **University of Wisconsin Schools**
  - Application postmarked by November 1<sup>st</sup>, decision made by January 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - Application postmarked by February 1<sup>st</sup>, decision made by March 15<sup>th</sup>.

# A Few College Quirks

- Most schools look for a **MINIMUM** of two years of foreign language
- **Change of Senior Schedule:** Notify colleges if you make changes to core classes after you have applied and/or been admitted

# Resources & Upcoming Events

- **College Reps Visiting MSSPA:**
  - Sept 20<sup>th</sup> U of MN—Twin Cities
  - Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> Stephens College—Columbia, MO
  - Oct 7<sup>th</sup> CAP 21 Musical Conservatory—NYC
- **National College Fair: Oct 4<sup>th</sup> and Oct 5<sup>th</sup>**  
<http://www.nacacnet.org/EventsTraining/CollegeFairs/ncf/Fall/Pages/11FMin.aspx#general>
- **Performing and Visual Arts College Fair: Oct 6<sup>th</sup>**  
<http://www.nacacnet.org/EventsTraining/CollegeFairs/pva/Pages/11PMinn.aspx>
- **Groves Academy LD/ADHD College and Post Secondary Opportunities Fair: Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
<http://www.grovesacademy.org/story.cfm?StoryID=62>

# Financial Aid & Scholarships

- Attend Financial Aid Nights
  - Contact Local Districts
  - Hopkins HS (Jan?)
- Use Scholarship websites:
  - [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
  - [www.wiredscholar.com](http://www.wiredscholar.com)
  - [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
  - [www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com)
- Individual college websites

## Other Resources

- Listen to Announcements!
- Utilize on-line resources
- Talk with Counselor, Teachers, Family, Graduates
- Transition Coordinator-Lesley Ernst (Students with Special Needs)

# Senior Trip

- To NYC: Wed, March 28<sup>th</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>
- Cost will be \$950-\$1100 (need at least 30)
- Cost includes everything except lunches and two dinners
- Down Payment due to Ms. Mollick by early October
- Trip will be broken down into 3 or 4 payments, last payment due in February.

# Fundraising

- Valleyfair (Valleyscare)
  - Saturdays and Sundays in Sept and Oct
  - You earn money by the number of hours you work
  - Listen to announcements for notices of meetings
  - See Mr. Leaf with questions
- Poinsettia Sales
  - Parents are needed to help with distribution
  - contact Ms. Mollick

# Senior Pictures

- Due to Mrs. Schauwitzer by Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>
- We will also be asking for baby pictures at that time which will be scanned and returned to you.
- You can submit wallet-size head or waist up vertical shots manually or via email to [cschauwitzer@msspahs.org](mailto:cschauwitzer@msspahs.org).
- Baby pictures do not have to be wallet size, but cannot be too big or too small or the picture will not turn out.

# Cap and Gown Orders

- Herff- Jones will hand out Cap and Gown, Announcement, and other grad product order forms in early December.
- Each student must order a cap and gown at minimum.
- Order forms are due back mid-December.
- Cap and Gown will cost approx. \$35

# Prom

- Will be on the Centennial Showboat on May 19th.
- Students must be in attendance at school on the Friday before Prom.

# Senior Reception

- 7:00pm on Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>
- At the Hopkins Center for the Arts – JC Studio
- Students and immediate families are invited
- Art Stoles are handed out, Scholarships recognized, and JJ Ramsted and Departmental awards are given

# Graduation

- Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm
- Only those students who have all credits finished may walk in graduation
- Students will need to be at the school by 5:30pm
- Gowns will be collected immediately following the ceremony

# Diploma Pick Up and Senior Check Out

- Check out happens on Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup> and Monday, June 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Students must pay all fees, including transcript fees, by this time.
- Students will be given their diplomas once all fees are paid and their gown and stole is returned.