



MORRIS KNOLLS HIGH SCHOOL

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April 2024

Dear Parents and Students:

Regular attendance is fundamental to the academic achievement of students in secondary schools. The self-discipline and sense of responsibility students acquire clearly relate after graduation to the world of work and are needed in a college or university environment. Because of this, and the state requirement that New Jersey school districts adopt attendance policies, the Morris Hills Regional District has placed a high value on student attendance and continues to establish high standards for its students.

As we enter the final two months of the school year, we feel we should re-emphasize the need for consistent attendance and punctuality in school. Also, our school wishes to communicate our clear expectations for student attendance the first scheduled school days after the Junior and Senior Proms, respectively.

The Prom season is one of the highlights of our school's social calendar; it is an exciting and special time, especially for juniors and seniors. Nonetheless, we must insist that a balance be maintained in abiding by school regulations and in allowing for some administrative flexibility. To clarify our building procedures for students attending proms in our district, we will follow these guidelines:

- Students must be in attendance until 12:10 pm on the day of the prom, in order to be eligible to attend the event that evening.
- Students on attendance contracts must meet with Mrs. Morgan for special permission regarding early dismissal.
- It is our expectation that students will be present in school on scheduled school days following the prom. Failure to do so, may result in attendance/disciplinary consequences.

Junior Prom: Friday May 17, 2024

Juniors may complete an early dismissal form if they wish to leave school early on May 17. **Please note that no student will be permitted to leave school before 12:10 pm.** Students must turn in the early dismissal form to the Attendance Office no later than May 10. Please note that your signature on the Early Dismissal Request Form does not signify an excused absence. **Absences will be recorded as unexcused for the classes missed.**

Senior Prom: Thursday, May 30, 2024

All seniors will be dismissed at 12:10 pm on the day of the Senior Prom, Thursday, May 30. **No early dismissal forms are necessary, and all senior absences will be considered excused.** Students and parents should be aware that this is a school activity and under no circumstances will the consumption of alcohol or drugs be tolerated. If, in the opinion of the chaperones, a student is impaired in any way, the school's Drug and Alcohol Policy will be enforced, which could include immediate drug and alcohol testing, drug and alcohol assessment,

suspension from school, removal from the prom, and other disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the administrators.

As parents, your continued support is needed on these issues. With your prior knowledge of our school's position and understanding of the consequences of unauthorized school absences and drug and alcohol violations, you will now be in a better position to speak with your son and/or daughter. Our interest is to clearly communicate our school expectations to you and to ensure the safety and welfare of all our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan MacNaughton", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Ryan MacNaughton