

## State Mandated 330 Minutes of School: The New Midterm Schedule

**Emma D.**  
**Editor-In-Chief**

For the classes of 2010, 2009 and 2008, it came as a huge disappointment to find out that midterm and final exam days were going to become full days of school rather than having the luxury of being able to come and go only when we had an exam. For the upperclassmen it is going to take some getting used to; for you freshmen, you missed out.

According to Principal Steven Ruscito our new midterm schedule was created to accomplish three things. One was to keep students in school all day to meet the state mandated 330 minutes of instructional time, the second was to reduce student dismissals and the third was to create college like study sessions.

We all know that the reduction of student dismissals goal was not met. Each morning, as soon as the students entered the doors there was a race to the main office to receive a yellow slip so you did not have to wait in the massive line that was soon to accumulate. If you were getting dismissed after the first exam, the

### My View

line in the dean's office was not bad, but if you were getting dismissed at 10:56 you were waiting in a line for at least 10 minutes waiting for you named to be called. We do not understand how the administration could expect the new midterm schedule to run smoothly. Unlike the past, after the exam periods, students were expected to attend so-called "study sessions" for their exam periods for the next day. In my opinion, teachers should be allotted that time to grade their exams. How can the administration expect the students to get any instruction when our teachers are too busy grading?

Hopefully the final exam schedule will be tweaked after seeing how the midterms went. Will administration realize that student dismissals will not decrease? Will we find a more organized way to dismiss the majority of the student body? Even if things do not change by June, at least give the seniors some slack after all. You are getting rid of us.

## Middletown High School: The Classes it Should Offer

**Aaron F.**  
**Style Editor**

I take my Algebra with parabolas, intercepts, and a few capsules of Advil. It's not even the math portion of the class that irks me, but as I observe the classroom full of zoo animals, err, students, it makes me completely disgusted at their lack of etiquette. I propose that MHS officials abandon our advisories (that are mostly used by students to exit the school and purchase coffee) and replace the block with an etiquette course. And no, this is not a joke whatsoever; I have even prepared the first few lesson plans.

### 1. How To Not Dress Like Lil' Kim's 16 Year Old Prodigy:

Seriously, girls, MHS is supposed to be an educational setting and as each year passes it seems the only thing our females learn is how to reduce the lengths of their skirts. What a sad world we live in where the classiest females are the fifty-so per diem that wear the same identical North face & Uggs tucked into their dark-colored-denim attire. Also, ladies, please learn that leggings are not considered pants and on that note, would you exit your home without pants? I don't think so. While leggings may look good for a select few, to others it's just a blatant step

towards informing the entire student body that your cellulite clad thighs jiggle like jell-o with each step. The risqué clothing ultimately distracts the hormone fueled males attempting to learn, so save the cleavage for your Myspace profile photos.

2. **Advanced Placement Hallway Walking:** The hallway (specifically the one home to the majority of our English classes) is one of the most ridiculous things I have ever experienced. The slow paced, jam packed commute to my locker, unfortunately located in this hallway, is a nightmare. With MHS home to more than six hundred students, it

often seems as if the entire school population is trying to travel in the same spot. Students whose belongings reside in this hallway find it hard to reach their lockers after each period and thus are forced to carry large quantities of textbooks with them. Please try to be a bit more considerate. It's really unnecessary and obnoxious when a group of kids is standing in the middle of the hallway, blocking passerby's, just to share to the world whom "So and so hooked up with" or how "totally wasted whoever was at that party Saturday." What did we learn in fourth

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# Cheers and Jeers for January

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Editor-In-Chief

## Cheers To...

The seniors who have been accepted to their dream school, time to fill out those scholarship applications

The girls swim team with a record of 9-3!

The New England Patriots for their 18-0 record

Britney Spears for admitting herself to the hospital on Thursday, January 31, 2008.

The state of RI for giving us a snow day on January 14th.

MHS students for surviving the new midterm schedule.

Those who passed their midterm exams.

Those who made the honor roll.

## Jeers To...

The new, chaotic exam schedule. There is no need for us students to have to stay in school for the full day.

Bad holiday spirit, I mean who goes around the day before Christmas vacation and turns off Elf or The Grinch?

The new "no leggings" addition to the dress code.

Schedule mix-ups (but what do you expect, it happens every semester.)

Freshmen who still don't understand the concept of walking in the halls.

The new gym and health curriculum. Thankfully the class of 2008 is graduating.

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grade? Oh, indoor voices and how to travel without teacher supervision.

**3. Behaving like a Civilized Student 101 (or at least pretending to):** I constantly thank God that I don't associate with more than a handful of MHS students outside of school. The reason being is that I have never experienced more immaturity in a facility for as long as I have lived. This includes everything from the attitude that students give teachers to the insubordination on nearly every single rule. I get it; you're all angsty teens trying to prove how "rebellious" you are and that no one can tell you what to do. In all honesty, education can be interesting if you just settle and learn a bit. I challenge every student to go an entire class period without texting your BFFLZ or listening to your trendy ipods or getting into a tiff because

somebody gave you an unpleasant look. Also, when teachers tell you to get rid of your drinks and food, it's not out of their hatred for you; it's for your protection against the likes of authority such as Ms. Sheehan. There's no need to strike attitudes towards the adults who manage your classes and I bet that if you pay attention for just one day, you'll be amazed at the knowledge you retain. Just learn. It's a human thing to do=]

**4. Resisting The Urge To Play Tonsil Hockey [Honors]:** Oh, please. Don't act as if you didn't see this one coming. I've recently seen an increase in the amount of PDA taking place on school grounds. Once again, I don't consider myself close friends with many in this school, nor do I go out of my way to meet new people who attend this here "palace of education" so would you genuinely like

my first impression of you to be from the stance of watching you invade your significant others mouth with the saliva and tiny specks of breakfast left over from breakfast three hours previous? Not only do I not want to observe your PDA, but I don't want to hear the details from your sex life either. It's time that intimate details be kept between couples unless asked. And if you're going to engage in acts only seen in Snoop Dogg music videos, remember to wrap it up, kiddos. We don't need anymore *Juno*'s running around.

Any questions, class? I'm not trying to offend anyone, just hoping to spread some enlightenment as to the insane behaviors that are periodically put on exhibit. It's factual that we as students spend a lot of time here at MHS, so make a good impression; it'll help in the long run.

# Days Until...

**February Vacation: 8 Days**

**School Dance: 21 Days**

**April Vacation: 64 Days**

**Senior Prom: 125 Days**

**Final Day of school for Seniors: 117 Days**

**Final Day of school for the rest of MHS:**

**130 Days**

**Graduation!: 128 Days**

**Have an Opinion?  
Email your ideas to:  
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