

MASSABESIC HIGH SCHOOL
PREPARES RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE AND CREATIVE THINKERS
FOR SUCCESS IN THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY

Principal's Memo

To: Class of 2019 Parents, Guardians, and Students
From: James A. Hand
Re: Standards Based Diploma Follow-Up
Date: April 27, 2017

Thank you for meeting a few weeks ago. As I stated in the meeting, here is the summary with some additions:

1. GPA will be calculated using the 4.0 scale.
2. Class rank will only be reported out senior year in the following way:
 - a. Top 5%
 - b. Top 10%
 - c. Top 20%
 - d. Top 30%
 - This will be available through guidance in the summer after the student's junior year and then again after the fall semester.
3. There will not be a salutatorian/valedictorian.
4. There is not a community service hour requirement for this class. Volunteer hours are still will continue to be tracked by the guidance department and the total hours will be recognized at graduation.
5. Foreign Language is not a requirement for this class (but strongly encouraged for students with post-secondary plans).
6. Honor roll will be determined through the Latin Honor System:

3.3-3.49	Cum Laude
3.5-3.69	Magna Cum Laude
3.7 and higher	Summa Cum Laude
7. GPA will continue to be calculated on a 4.0 scale and it will be on the transcript.
8. We do not weight proficiency scores.
9. AP teachers and Mr. Ouellette are working on a plan for scoring AP courses.

Here is the link regarding Scholarships for UMaine

<https://go.umaine.edu/apply/scholarships/maine-matters/>

Mr. Ouellette will send along any follow up information he receives.

We believe that it is important that all students at Massabesic High School challenge themselves. We would like to reiterate that the strength of schedule is a predominant factor in the admissions process. AP courses often times equate to college credit for students.

We are working with staff this school year to clarify scoring 1 through 4 in order to be more consistent moving forward.

The Program Of Studies was inaccurate. It should have stated Class of 2017 & 2018 in the section regarding Weighted Grades, not 2018 & 2019. This has been corrected.

Students who took Algebra 1 in 8th grade and received a P will receive high school credit but their GPA will not be affected by this course.

Proficiency scores for All Academic Athletes has not yet been determined by the Maine Principal's Association. The MPA only recognizes seniors regarding this. It is a local decision to recognize 9th through 11th grade students.

We will continue to honor the STEM Pathway:

Courses that may be taken as Pass/Fail as part of the STEM Scholars Program are the following: AP Statistics, AP Calculus AB or BC, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics, AP Statistics.

Students must receive a "P" for pass and at least a 3 on Guiding Principles B & D to receive credit. A student may also enroll in courses offered by other accredited educational institutions with prior approval of the high school principal to earn their recognition.

MHS will consult with colleges regarding our STEM Scholar Program Certificate to ensure that our graduates will be given earned excellence for their focus and advanced studies in the STEM disciplines.

MHS STEM Scholar Program Pathways

	Math	Science	Tech & Engineering
Freshman	Algebra 1	Gr.9 Integrated Science 1 CP/A/H Biology CP/A/H	Arch. Draft & Design I Student Help Desk
Sophomore	Algebra 2 CP/A/H Geometry CP/A/H Trigonometry Pre-Calculus AP Statistics	Intgr. Science 2 CP/A/H Chemistry CP/A/H AP Biology Science Workshop	Basic CAD Arch. Draft & Design II Power Generation in Maine
Junior	AP Calculus AB Approved College Courses	Physics CP/A/H AP Chemistry AP Physics Adv. Bio Adv. Lab Skills Forensics Approved College Courses	Adv. Computer Aided Drafting Material Prod. & Manufacturing II Apprenticeship Approved Technical Center Classes Approved College Courses
Senior	AP Calculus BC Approved Independent Study	Adv. Anatomy & Physiology Approved Independent Study	Approved Technical Center Classes Approved Independent Study Courses