

# THE MIDDIE MESSENGER

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Mid-year Graduation	<b>1</b>
Bus Schedule	<b>2</b>
Regents & RCT Exam	<b>2</b>
Final Exam & Block Schedule	<b>2</b>
Guidance Page	<b>3</b>
Freshman Academy Info.	<b>3</b>
January Time Line	<b>3</b>
Community Service	<b>4</b>
Parent's Corner	<b>4</b>
All Night Graduation Graduation	<b>5</b>
Poetry Out Loud	<b>6</b>
After School Help	<b>6</b>

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*Happy New Year!*

*I hope that you have enjoyed your vacation and are ready for a successful New Year. I am very excited to begin 2010 and I look forward to seeing you again. A new year presents an opportunity for a new beginning. A new year to make new plans and to implement new strategies to ensure success.*

*I am proud of what we have achieved at Middletown High School. Our school has dedicated staff and teachers who have a common goal to do what is best for our students. We are always looking for ways to achieve that goal. This year, as in the past, we must continue to concentrate on the process that drives continuing advancement, evaluates what we have, determines what we can do to improve, and identifies what we need to do to make these improvements.*

*I wish to take this opportunity to thank our teachers, staff, parents, and students. With all of us working together we can continue to soar to success!*

*Lets make 2010 our best year yet!*

*Alan Gonzalez  
Executive Principal*

## January Graduation!

Approximately thirty one high school students will graduate from Middletown High School this month. The graduation ceremony will be held on February 3, 2010 at 8:00 am in the theatre. A celebration breakfast will follow the ceremony.



**JANUARY FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE**

*Normal morning pick-up bus schedule on January 21, 22 and 25. There will be early dismissal during final exam days.*



**Bus Schedule for Regents  
Week of Jan 26-29**

- 6:45 am—Bus run for am testing
- 10:40 am—Bus run for pm testing will bring students to the high school prior to the 12:00 noon exam and in time for the afternoon BOCES bus.
- 2:20 pm—Afternoon dismissal
- 3:30 pm—Late bus
- 7:45 am— am BOCES Vo-Tech
- 12:00 pm—pm BOCES Vo-Tech

Block 1 Testing 7:50 am—9:20 am  
 Block 2 Testing 9:40 am—11:10 am  
 Block 3 Testing 11:30 am—1:00 pm  
 Periods for each day of the block schedule are as follows:

Thursday, January 21	Friday, January 22	Monday, January 25
Period 1	Period 2	Period 3
Period 5	Period 4	Period 9
Period 8	Period 7	Period 6

**JANUARY 2010 REGENTS & RCT EXAM SCHEDULE**

<p>Tuesday, January 26 8:00 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living Environment</li> <li>• Math B</li> <li>• RCT Global Studies</li> </ul>	<p>Tuesday, January 26 12:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive English (Day 1 )</li> <li>• RCT in Mathematics</li> </ul>
<p>Wednesday, January 27 8:00 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive French</li> <li>• Comprehensive Spanish</li> <li>• Earth Science</li> <li>• RCT in US History &amp; Government</li> </ul>	<p>Wednesday, January 27 12:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive English (Day 2)</li> <li>• RCT Science</li> </ul>
<p>Thursday, January 28 8:00 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. History &amp; Government</li> <li>• RCT Reading</li> <li>• Geometry</li> </ul>	<p>Thursday, January 28 12:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated Algebra</li> <li>• Chemistry</li> <li>• Physics</li> </ul>

Review classes are held in two sessions:

Session #1— 2:30-3:30

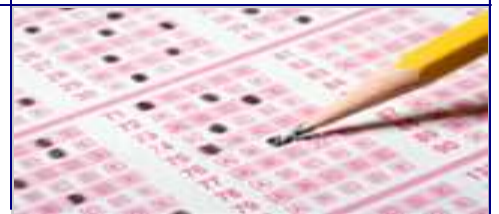
Session #2— 3:30-4:30

Transportation is provided

**NOW THROUGH  
JANUARY 25TH, 2010**

Friday, January 29  
8:00am


- Global History & Geography
- Physics




**Please note:**

- **Book bags will be collected at the High School main entrance prior to the student entering a classroom for a regents exam.**
- **The use of all electronic devices, such as a cell phone are not permitted while taking a test. The use of an electronic device will result in the invalidation of a their exam.**

## *Guidance January Timeline*

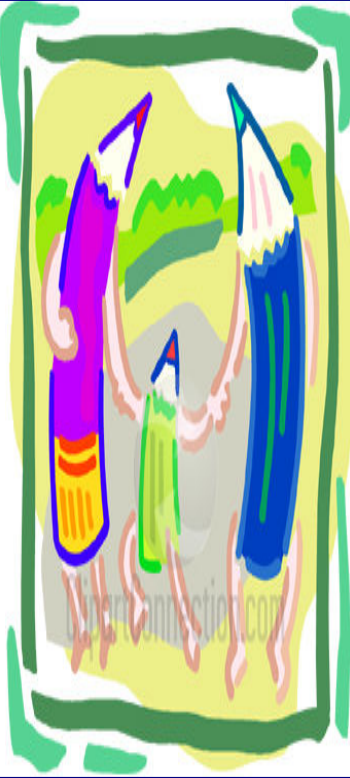
<b>Sophomores</b>	<b>Juniors</b>	<b>Seniors</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to monitor your grades and make sure you are being as successful as you can be.</li> <li>• Get involved! Join a club, sport or do some volunteer work.</li> <li>• Use Choices compute program to determine your interests and help you make some goals.</li> <li>• Review your 4 year high school plan to determine that you have selected the most appropriate classes for you.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decide what type of post-secondary education you are looking for.</li> <li>• Consider the following factors: location, size, majors offered, social environment, cost, admission requirements, academic rigor, activities/clubs, sports.</li> <li>• Continue to prepare for the SAT/ACT exams</li> <li>• Consider getting a summer job in the field you may be interested in.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• File the FAFSA online ASAP</li> <li>• Maintain a strong senior</li> <li>• Apply for scholarships</li> </ul> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>

## FRESHMAN ACADEMY

<p><b>Rules:</b> In the Freshman Academy we hold students to the highest expectations. Students are expected to abide by the following rules:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Be prepared</li> <li>2. Be on time</li> <li>3. Respect others, yourself and the classroom</li> <li>4. Follow individual teacher's rules and policies</li> </ol>	<p><b>Support:</b> Students and parents can expect a wide array of support from the staff of the Freshman Academy. Part of this support comes in the form of after school tutoring, parent conferences and our guidance staff. Another form of support is through the use of the student planner. Freshman Academy is a bridge from the 8th grade to the 10th grade. The support mechanisms are the core of the Academy. Through these, students are given concrete ways to make the transition from middle school to the academic and behavioral expectations at Middletown High School and their parents/guardians are given the opportunity to become and remain involved in their child's education.</p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>
---	--

**Planners:**  
All 9th grade students are provided with an academic planner to support them in organizing vital information. By allowing a few minutes a week for students to enter and read information in their planners, teachers can help students create good work habits that will benefit them their entire lives. Parents, guardians, teachers and counselors can assist students by encouraging them to use their planners to record information, including the following:

- Homework and project due dates for all classes
- Quiz, test and presentation dates
- Marking periods
- Changes for PE, math and science labs
- Locker combinations
- Field trips
- Medical and dental appointments
- School holidays
- Days of personal importance
- Dates of tryouts, auditions, competitions etc.



We're on the Web  
[www.middletoncityschools.org](http://www.middletoncityschools.org)

Middletown High School  
 24 Gardner Ave. Ext.  
 Middletown NY 10940

Phone: 845-326-1600  
 Fax: 845-326-1605  
 E-mail: first initial and last name@ecsdm.org

## **PARENT'S CORNER**

### ***Parents Setting Goals***

Setting goals is a great thing to do as an adult. There is nothing like the feeling of success when you achieve a goal. So, here's an idea you can do that will make you feel good and it will help your child in school. Set a goal for yourself to commit to positive actions on behalf of your child this year. It's easier than you think. Any of the following suggestions will make a positive difference for your child. I encourage you to take just one (maybe two) of the ideas below and promise to stick with it for the year. Share your commitment with your child and let them know you are a team.

### ***Set appropriate and consistent bedtimes and routines***

In fact, talk with other parents and agree on a time when all the kids need to be in the house and getting ready for the evening. This will help eliminate grumbling and promote the success of your goal.

- Provide breakfast everyday
- Make certain students are at school on time everyday with the exception of illness (fever, vomiting)
- Send your child with words of encouragement each morning
- Ask questions at the end of the day
- Provide a quiet time and place to study
- Check backpacks
- Check homework and ask questions
- Visit your child's school
- Talk with your child's teacher
- Encourage your child to read before bedtime
- Set limits with television, internet use and video games



### **District launches School Messenger**

Keeping students, parents, and the community informed isn't just important—it's a priority in Middletown. As a result, the district has launched School Messenger— a notification system that delivers voice, e-mail, and SMS messages to users on matters such as attendance, events, and district emergencies. The School Messenger system will allow you to control the ways in which you prefer to be contacted. It also works like a mailbox, giving you a place to review messages you may have missed. Visit our district website to learn more about this service and how to create a School Messenger account

## ALL NIGHT GRADUATION PARTY

This party is an invaluable service to our graduating seniors, and an enormous undertaking. Through the generosity and support of the entire community the club has been successful in providing this party for MHS graduates. Parents, grandparents, businesses, community groups, administration, faculty, and staff all pitch in to make this a successful event, accomplishing 2 primary goals:

- 1) To provide a safe alternative on the night of graduation - supervised and alcohol free.
- 2) To make this event an absolute blast for our graduates - a celebration worthy of their accomplishments!

Please join us to help with the planning!

***Tuesday, January 12 at 7:00 PM in the cafeteria***

**DONATIONS WANTED!!!!** The party is sponsored by ticket sales and contributions. We are always in search of interested donors so that we can keep the ticket price at a minimum. Any interested parties or anyone with a lead on possible donors (business or personal, monetary or food) please contact us at [jerryscollision@frontiernet.net](mailto:jerryscollision@frontiernet.net).

---

## Poetry Out Loud

This year's third annual Middletown High School "Poetry Out Loud" School-Wide Competition was staged on Wednesday, January 6th. There were 27 student participants, which spanned grades 9 through 12. The program was filled with poetry that spanned the historical time periods, from Medieval to 21st Century examples. We were graced with a very deep pool of talent that embraced the experience and delivered some inspired performances on the program. We're very pleased that the program has continued to grow in participation and enthusiasm here at Middletown High School. We are finding that there are more and more students that have a true love for poetry and the spoken word. "Poetry Out Loud" is another creative outlet that we are extending to our students and they are truly inspiring to listen to as they perform. We also need to make sure that we extend our thanks to Mr. Gonzalez and Mrs. Zernone for their continued administrative support, and to Mr. Gregory Bennett (Lead Teacher), Ms. Kim Swim, Ms. Jayme Stevens, Mrs. Angela Monroe, and Mr. Matthew Branford for taking part as well as Sponsor Teachers.

This year's top three finishers are: Sadie Isseks (Grade 12), Laura Griffin (Grade 12), and Leanette McPhatter (Grade 12). The alternates are: Michael Alvarado (Grade 12), Darren Blot (Grade 10), and Macia Pickett (Grade 12). The top three finishers received engraved trophies & medals, a poetry anthology, and gift cards to Borders Bookstore in the Galleria at Crystal Run. The top three finishers will now move on to the New York State Regional Competition, which will be held the first week of February in New York City.

Congratulations to all of our student participants!

## *Freshman Academy*

### *After school help*

Students enrolled in the Freshman Academy can get extra help after school from 2:30-3:30pm. The schedules is as follows:

- Monday—Science
- Tuesday-Social Studies
- Wednesday—English
- Thursday—Math

Snacks and transportation will be provided.



### Community Service

#### A message from Ms. Pacella-Green

The Middletown High School Key Club will be hosting its 15th Annual Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, January 16, 2010 at United Presbyterian Church of Middletown (formerly First Presbyterian Church, 25 Orchard St.) from 4:00-7:00 PM. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$5 for children (3-12) and seniors. Children under 3 are free. Take-out is available. The proceeds from this event will benefit the family of Brent DeWitt (son of Diane Kindberg) who was seriously injured in an automobile accident in October. If you have any questions, or wish to purchase a ticket, please see me in room 121.

Thank you for your support!



#### A message from Ms. Jennifer Still

In order to promote the NY social studies standard of Citizenship and Civic Participation. Four U.S. History and Governments participated in a canned food drive competition. The canned food drive lasted from December 1— December 16. The donations are going towards the Emergency Housing project and specifically the Youth Shelter. We donated 400+ canned food and non-perishables items. The class with the most donations received a small “congratulations” celebration the day before break for their efforts. I am proud of my student’s achievements.