



Leader In Academic Excellence

The Mission of the Monson Public Schools is to maximize learning by adhering to high standards of academic achievement, preparing all students to become responsible and productive global citizens.



Monson High School

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September Newsletter

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Upcoming Important Dates:

- 9/22 - Picture Day
- 9/24 - Open House
- 10/8 - ½ Day of School
Parent Conferences
- 10/8 - MassMakers
Innovation Field Trip
- 10/13 - No School
- 11/14 - Credit for Life Field
Trip
- 11/26 - ½ Day Thanksgiving
- 11/27 - 11/28 - No School

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From the Administration

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Welcome back to school! We are so happy to begin the new school year at Monson High School. We have started the year off with a lot of success and look forward to continuing our smooth opening.

We are excited to launch specialized pathways in **Medical Assisting** and **Advanced Manufacturing - Engineering**, providing students with hands-on, real-world learning experiences. These programs are designed to give students a head start in growing career fields with opportunities to earn certifications, work with industry professionals, participate in internships, and gain valuable skills before they even graduate.

Beyond academics, our school is committed to fostering a positive and inclusive school culture. We believe in building a strong community where students feel supported, valued, and motivated to reach their goals. Every detail — from our collaborative learning to our enthusiastic and caring staff — has been designed to support student growth, confidence, and well-being.

We truly believe that MHS has become a beacon of opportunity and pride for our families and the broader community. In the coming months, we will be working to continue to broaden opportunities for our students and look forward to sharing that information soon.

Thank you for your continued support, which has led to a wonderful and successful start to the school year.

Sincerely,

Christopher Fontaine - Principal
Mary Zurawka - Assistant Principal/Athletic Director



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New Student BBQ



An annual tradition of Monson High School each year is to kick off the new school year for incoming students with our Back To School BBQ. Each year students feel the nervousness of entering a new school, a new building and even just high school. On Monday, August 25, 2025, new students were welcomed

to Monson High School. They were able to meet their teachers, see their classes, play some games, and enjoy some delicious food prepared by MHS staff. We would like to thank our student council and National Honor Society students for volunteering and making this a successful event.



Know Your School Night

On September 24, 2025, Monson High School will host a "Know Your School Night" or an Open House where families were able to meet teachers, learn more about the programming of Monson High School, and spend some time following the schedule of their student. This will take place from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM.



During the evening, Mr. Fontaine will present information about the recently developed programs and the progress that has been made over the summer to grow these programs. In addition, MHS is looking to add an Early College Program which would allow students to graduate from Monson High School with college credit, potentially up to a year or more of credit.

Reveal Math Curriculum

Last year the Monson Public Schools piloted a new Math curriculum in grades K-8. With the success that the pilot showed, the Monson Public Schools have adopted the Reveal Math Program. At Monson High School, teachers will be going through a series of training to learn more about the teaching methods and features the program offers.



In addition to the Reveal Curriculum, students will be able to work in an online platform called ALEKS. ALEKS is designed to differentiate learning to individual learners while providing students with grade level standards tailored to their individual needs.

Parent Teacher Conferences

On Wednesday, October 8, 2025, students will have a ½ day of school so that our teachers can host parent teacher conferences. During the week of September 22nd, a document will be emailed to all families allowing them to select a time and date for a conference. Conferences are held virtually and are designed for parents to check in with their student's teacher and discuss their progress. If you are unable to make a conference within the given time and would like to meet with your student's teacher, please contact them to set up an alternate time.





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Advisory (MyCAP and MEFA Pathways)



During the 2024-2025 school year, Monson High School began working on an advisory period for students. This school year, we have grown the advisory program so that

all students are participating. The advisory period is held on Fridays of full weeks of school for 30 minutes with a goal of providing students with a comprehensive and personalized plan that aligns to their personal, academic and career development interests.

Monson High School has adopted the MyCAP curriculum and the MEFA Pathways platform for all students. This curriculum aims to empower students to take an active role in their education, seek out career development opportunities, and identify the skills necessary for success in the workforce. MyCAP supports our teachers in guiding students towards their educational and career paths, ensuring that students are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed for postsecondary success.

To learn more about the MyCAP curriculum for students, please click [HERE](#). To visit the MEFA Pathways tool that students will be using, please click [HERE](#).

Work Based Learning

The Monson High School Work Based learning program is off to a great start this year! Partnering with over twenty local businesses and community partners, students in grade 11 and grade 12 have the opportunity to gain valuable internship experience in career fields they may enter after high school.

As we continue to expand our program and our community partnerships, we are always looking for more career mentors. If you are interested in having a



student intern, please contact Wendy Pisciotta, our School To Career Coordinator at MHS.

In partnership with RiverEast and MassHire, we are able to broaden

our scope of internships for students while also sending students to career fairs so that they can deepen their knowledge of careers.

This Semester, we are excited to have 14 students participating in the Work Based Learning Program. Industry partners include Exotic Image Tanning, Dupois Chemicals, Kokonowski Criminal Defense, Bay State Wing Hospital, Quarry Hill Community School, Monson Savings Bank, Bei Capeilli, Allied Testing Laboratories, Trelleborg Engineered Coated Fabrics and Monson High School Athletic Department.

New Programs at MHS

Launching this year, Monson High School will have two new programs for students in

Grades 9-12. Each program consists of both technical and academic courses designed to ensure students are prepared for post secondary success.



Advanced Manufacturing (Engineering) - The Advanced Manufacturing Pathway consists of four technical courses and two academic courses. **Introduction to Engineering** digs deep into the engineering design process, applying math, science and engineering standards to hands-on projects such as designing a new toy or existing product. **Principles of Engineering** has students explore how modern engineers help improve the world through diverse engineering fields such as product design, mechanical design, infrastructure, and sustainability. Students learn and use cutting edge tools that engineers will use in robotics, 3D modeling, programming, and prototyping.



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As this program continues to build, we will be introducing new courses in the 2026-2027 school year such as Computer Integrated Manufacturing and Advanced Manufacturing. season against Longmeadow on Monday October 6th. Fresh off their state qualifications, the Monson High School Cheerleading team is set to begin their run again at a Western Mass and State qualification.



Medical Assisting - The Medical Assisting Program is a 720 hour program over 4 years with students gaining the skills and credentials necessary for a Certified

Clinical Medical Assistant. Students may also enter this program to gain skills and knowledge to prepare them for other careers within the Healthcare Field. We currently have about 30 students signed up for courses with a goal of having 10 students per grade level/course once the program is in full swing.

Athletics

The 2025-2026 school year is off to a great start for Monson High School Athletics. Offering a wide variety of Fall Sports, including, Boys Varsity and JV Soccer, Girls Varsity and JV Soccer, Boys and Girls Cross Country, Golf, Cheerleading, Unified Basketball and Football (Co-Op with Palmer), MHS has over 100 student athletes competing this fall season. While athletics have been underway for the last few weeks, students are excited for what the season will bring. Boys soccer won their scrimmage on Friday August 29th, 12-0 against St. Mary's while girls soccer also won their scrimmage 4-0 against Chicopee. Golf is off to a great start with wins over Pathfinder and Springfield International Charter School. On September 19th, Monson High School will be hosting its annual Community Soccer Night at Granite Valley. The boys will be hosting Pathfinder at 5:00 PM and the girls will be hosting Granby at 7:00 PM. We will have



concessions available for purchase along with a halftime shootout at each game. Younger players (Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6) are welcome to join us at the beginning of the game to walk out with our players.

Cross country and football will get their seasons started this week with cross country visiting Belchertown on Thursday, September 4th, and football opening their season against Pathfinder on Friday, September 12th. Unified Basketball will kick off their season the last week in September. We are beyond proud of our athletic accomplishments and look forward to what the year will bring for our student athletes!

Senior News

Senior year of high school is often seen as the most memorable chapter in a student's academic journey—and for good reason. It's a time of milestones, transitions, and reflection. After years of homework, exams, and growing pains, seniors stand on the edge of adulthood, looking forward to both freedom and responsibility. Each month, Mrs. Sorel will post the Senior Scoop which will include important information for our seniors.



Please click [HERE](#) to view the September Senior Scoop. This edition includes information about college visits to MHS, information regarding college financial aid and the Common App.