

Dear Families,

February 2010

Winter Family Weekend at Milton Hershey School is about one month away on March 12 – 14. Please plan to visit with your student(s) on-campus and take advantage of all the fun activities and learning experiences you and your child/children can participate in together. On Friday, March 12, we invite all parents/sponsors to join us for the Spartan Family Network meeting at the new Purcell Interactive Learning Center at 5:30 p.m. The Center features a chronological history of the MHS agricultural program as well as displays of rarely seen photos and farm videos from the School's early years; alumni and staff memories; interactive learning displays for children and much more! We hope to see you there! Please take a look at this flier and check out all the exciting things that are going on at MHS all weekend long.

Please remember to let houseparents, SBA mentors, or TL resident advisors know about your visitation plans as soon as possible so they can arrange schedules accordingly in their respective residences.

If you wish to visit a student in their school building on Friday, March 12, please contact the school main office before March 10, to make arrangements. Phone numbers are below. Please note: Visitation is for parents/sponsors only.

Elementary Division – Memorial Hall Main Office: 717-520-2400
Middle Division – Catherine Hall Main Office: 717-520-2600
Springboard Academy: 866-552-4755
Senior Division – Senior Hall Main Office: 717-520-2804



We look forward to seeing you at Winter Family Weekend 2010!

Warm Regards,

Jay Garvey
Coordinator, Family Relations and New Student Transitions
Springboard Academy and Middle Division

Judy Smith
Coordinator, Family Relations and New Student Transitions
Elementary and Senior Divisions

MHS FAMILY WEEKEND VISITATION POLICY

Saturday, March 13

- Visitation for all Divisions begins at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 13.
- If your student has co-curricular obligations as part of the weekend's activities, please make sure they honor those commitments prior to visitation.

Sunday, March 14

To ensure that your child does not lose a long weekend, please follow the instructions below:

- Students who are out visiting overnight on Saturday night must check in with their houseparents at Chapel and be seated with their student home prior to 8:45 a.m.
- **If your student does not return for Chapel Service, this weekend will be counted as one of their five long weekends. Also, he/she will lose an additional weekend, according to Home Life Policy.**
- **If your student arrives late and/or is dressed inappropriately, he/she will lose one of their five weekend visits.**
- At 8:50 a.m. the doors to the Auditorium will be closed. Guests who arrive after that time will be invited to watch the Service live on the Upper Level of the Dining Room.
- You are welcome, and encouraged, to sit with your child's student home. If you have siblings enrolled, you may all sit together as long as you've made prior arrangements with the houseparents.
- Everyone is expected to remain in their seats until the conclusion of Chapel Service.
- Visiting on Sunday is from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- The MHS program focuses much attention on development of character and teaching your child/children to respect and manage responsibilities both to self and others. For this reason, being on time and neatly dressed are vital expectations as we gather for time that is sacred to our School family.



WINTER FAMILY WEEKEND

MARCH 12 – 14, 2010

Schedule of Activities

~ Friday, March 12 ~

Visitation Opportunities for all Divisions

Parents/sponsors who wish to visit their child in their school building on Friday, March 12th, must contact the main office of the school the child attends before March 10th to make your reservations (Phone numbers are on page 1.). Note: Visitation is for parents/sponsors **ONLY**.

All Divisions: Home Life Administrators One-on-One Parents/Sponsors Meetings

Home life administrators (HLA's) will be available on Friday to meet with you. Please call your HLA **in advance** to make an appointment. If you don't have their direct telephone numbers, please call the appropriate Home Life Office, as follows:

Elementary Division Home Life – Memorial Hall: 717-520-2410
Middle Division Home Life – Catherine Hall: 717-520-2402
Senior Division Home Life – Senior Hall: 717-520-2603

5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Spartan Family Network Meeting

Purcell Friendship Hall

(A shuttle to Purcell Friendship Hall will leave at 5:15 p.m. from the porte cochere entrance (east side) of Founders Hall.)

The Purcell Interactive Learning Center, located next door to the Dearden House, captures the Milton Hershey School's rich agricultural heritage in displays at computer kiosks. House photos, videos and alumni memories of the MHS farm experience from the 1930s through 1980s are only some of the highlights of this newest addition to the Dearden House Alumni Campus. Light refreshments will be served. Directions: Purcell Friendship Hall is located at 109 McCorkle Road in Hershey and is less than 2 miles from Founders Hall. From Founders Hall, follow Rt. 322 West to intersection at Homestead Road; turn left onto Homestead Road; at stop sign, turn left onto Fishburn Road (Rt. 743 South); continue on Fishburn Road, then turn right onto McCorkle Road. Make the 2nd right into driveway-entrance is marked. Purcell is the white, renovated "barn."

~ Saturday, March 13 ~

8:30 a.m. – 9 a.m.

Beverage Stop

Founders Hall Lower Level Dining Room

Come enjoy a beverage and start your day off right!

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Dearden House Open House

William E. Dearden Alumni Campus

Dearden House displays include videos and memorabilia items depicting student home life in the 1950s – early 1960s and a recreation of William Dearden's High Point Mansion office, complete with a video chronicling his life as an HIS/MHS student and his journey to become the CEO of the Hershey Chocolate Company. Directions: The Dearden House is less than 2 miles from Founders Hall: Follow Route 322 West to intersection at Homestead Road; turn left onto Homestead Road; at stop sign, turn left onto Fishburn Road (Rt. 743 South); continue on Fishburn Road for about 1 mile, then turn right onto McCorkle Road. Make the 2nd right into the Dearden House driveway-entrance is marked.

9:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Transitional Living and Career Planning

Founders Hall Heritage Room

Jim Case, Associate Director of Transition Services, along with Art Kline, Associate Director of Transition Services, will be available to answer questions regarding the transitional living program and career & college planning.

10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Transitional Living Open House

Dewey and Ivanhoe

Visit MHS' Transitional Living apartments and see how all of our seniors are adjusting to their new apartments.

10 a.m. – 12 Noon

"Community Treasures in the Making: The MHS Centennial Mural & Catherine Hershey Sculpture – A Pictorial Retrospective"

Clyde Stacks Arts Center Gallery - 2nd floor

This show offers an inside look at the creation of the two pieces of art made to celebrate the MHS Centennial. Viewers will see the projects unfold, including the many hands from throughout the MHS community who were personally involved with one or both. While visiting the gallery, be sure to take time to view the Centennial Mural, which is located in the walkway between Copenhaver Center and Founders Hall. Pick-up a guidebook to learn about the eras each of the 45 panels depicts.

10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Student Support Services Fair**

Dining Rooms 1 & 2

What programs are included in student support services? Come to Founders Hall to find out the many ways student support services work with students and families of MHS. There will be hands-on activities, workshops, prizes and demonstrations for all. We look forward to seeing you!

***** NEW THIS YEAR! *****

~ Milton Hershey School Winter Family Engagement Conference ~

9 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. **“Support Your Spartan”**

Founders Hall Upper Level Dining Room

Jay Garvey, Coordinator of Family Relations and New Student Transitions for Middle Division and Springboard Academy, along with members of the MHS Student Government Association (SGA) will discuss ways that family members can best support their child during their MHS experience. Strategies will be shared on how to combat homesickness, how to effectively communicate expectations and encouragement, and other insights from our student leaders that will assist you in helping your child achieve success at MHS.

Break-Out Sessions

Session 1: 10 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Session 2: 11 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Please choose 2 from below:

“Are You Insured?” This hands-on workshop will be led by Chris Rich, Coordinator of Health Services for Elementary Division, and Cindy Kelly, Coordinator of Health Services for Senior Division, to help parents/sponsors secure health insurance for their families. Information will be available on what options are available, how to apply for insurance and obtain health care coverage for students after graduation, as well as how to work with your health insurance company to get the care you need. **(MR 1)**

“Viva Diversity” Viva Diversity is an after-school club for Senior Division students facilitated by Sonnya Nieves, Senior Division Social Worker and Diane Teske, Senior Division Psychologist. Have fun learning about how we all are connected. Students will lead participants through exciting activities to promote awareness of differences and connectedness. **(MR 3)**

“Resume Writing and Interviewing” Learn from the Pro's! A staff member from MHS' Human Resources Dept. will discuss how to put together a resume that gets noticed as well as how to present yourself and what to expect during a job interview. **(MR 2)**

“When a Dollar or Two Won't Do” Judy Smith, Coordinator of Family Relations and New Student Transitions for Elementary and Senior Divisions, will talk about how the economic realities of poverty affect the lifestyles of children and families **(Brown & Gold)**

11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. **Family Lunch**

Founders Hall Upper & Lower Level Dining Rooms

An assortment of luncheon foods will be served.

12 Noon – 1 p.m. **Piano and Guitar Music Performance**

Founders Hall Upper Level Dining Room

Individual students play a wide range of pieces for piano. The Guitar Ensemble, a contemporary high school guitar group, performs unique arrangements of selections.

11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. **MHS “Spirit” Items for Sale**

Founders Hall Lower Level Dining Room

The Office of Student Character and Leadership has a variety of MHS “spirit” items for sale.

11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Spartanwear for Sale**

Founders Hall (near Upper Level Dining Room)

Visit the Alumni Association tables to purchase your very own Spartanwear and MHS mementos and gift items.

1 p.m. – 4 p.m. **Tours of the MHS Heritage Center and Department of School History**

Kinderhaus

The MHS Heritage Center is the place where students can learn about the history of the School as well as our founders, Mr. & Mrs. Hershey. This is an opportunity to watch films from the 1950's and 1970's that show what life was like in the School. While you're there, you can also look at exhibits, photos, and yearbooks from the past. The Heritage Center is the "family attic" of the School and conveys the history and traditions MHS.

1:15 – 2:30 p.m.

MHS Centennial Documentary Showing

Founders Hall Upper Level Dining Room

Experience a year in the lives of Milton Hershey School students in the documentary which has been airing on the Sundance Channel and IFC.

2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Family Fun Time

Copenhaver Recreation Spaces

Families are welcome to play together in our gym and game room. *To enter the Recreation Spaces, please park in the parking lot next to the Ice Rink and enter Copenhaver Center at the doors in the breezeway leading to Town Center.*

4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

An Afternoon at the Movies

Founders Hall Upper Level Dining Room

Enjoy some family time and watch a movie together.

~ Sunday, March 14 ~

9 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Chapel Service

Founders Hall Auditorium

Parents/sponsors and their families are welcome to attend our Sunday morning Chapel Service. The Middle School Choir will be providing music and Pastor Wagner will be sharing the message reflecting on one of our sacred values. In order for this weekend to not count as one of your weekends, all students MUST be seated with their student homes AND be appropriately dressed for Chapel no later than 8:50 a.m. At 8:50 a.m. the doors to the Auditorium will be closed to begin the service. Guests who arrive after that time will be invited to watch it live in the Heritage Room.

** There will be no Junior Chapel or off-campus worship transportation provided. **

10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Refreshments-on-the-Run

Founders Hall Dining Room

Come get a snack prior to spending the day with your student or beginning your travel back home. Coffee, tea, juices, fruit, and bagels will be available.

***Mark your calendar: May 7 – 9, 2010
is Spring Family Weekend!***

