



# MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS

## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Montgomery County Schools: Increasing the Focus on Attendance

Regular attendance is a critical skill for success in post-secondary education and employment and as students go through their senior year, they need to understand how good attendance will help them in the future.

Montgomery County Schools recently took a big step toward teaching students the skills they will need for college and career readiness when the Board of Education passed the following policy, which went into effect for seniors at the start of this school year:

*Any senior who exceeds nine (9) unexcused absences will not be permitted to participate in the MCHS commencement/ graduation ceremony. While students will receive their diploma, they will not be permitted to march or receive their diploma during the ceremony.*

MCHS Principal, Rocky Franz shared that all parents and guardians of senior students had a letter mailed to them with information about this important attendance policy. Students were also given a copy of the letter to take home. Mr. Franz indicated that senior attendance will be monitored often at MCHS. A conference will be scheduled with any student who is close to having nine (9) unexcused absences in addition to their parent/guardian being called. The school's goal is for all seniors to have good attendance and earn the privilege of participating in the graduation ceremony.

Along with the new policy, the school has also started a Good Attendance Incentives Program, where students receive rewards for good attendance. Mr. Franz stated, "Graduation is a wonderful celebration of student accomplishment. We don't want to see any student lose that opportunity, but they must know that their attendance will be monitored and this policy will be enforced. It's teaching them the skills that they will need to have a successful career, and we want that for every MCHS student." Parents/Guardians with questions about this new policy should contact Mr. Franz at (859) 497-8765.