March 12, 2020

As you know, the situation with COVID-19 is rapidly evolving. We are monitoring and making decisions day by day - sometimes, hour to hour. **For tonight, we have cancelled Math Night, National History Day at MHS, and the MHS Band and Chorus performance ONLY.** All other events, clubs and practices are still happening. Rationale:

- There will be a large number of people (up to 500) who will be either in close proximity and/or at interactive stations for an extended period of time
- Many spaces will be used and our custodians will not have the means to adequately disinfect all areas prior to the opening of school on Friday

This decision was not easy. We value the time and energy of our student performers. We also appreciate the support our families and community give to our children for these events; we know it brings you great joy to attend.

The MHS band and chorus will still perform to an empty audience. The teacher will communicate with students the time and date. We will record the performance and then do the work necessary to acquire the permissions. If permissions are granted, then we will share it publicly at a future date.

This news may be frustrating - especially in light of the fact that the MHS championship hockey game was held just last night. Foremost, the Vermont Principals Association governs high school athletic championship games, and thus, they are the decision-making body there within. As you may know, the guidance for group gatherings and social distancing has just begun to take a rapid turn in VT. In terms of events within our local control, our Health Response Team felt it was important to be proactive in our approach. As district administrators, we are amid a new age challenge. We appreciate your support as we navigate the ever changing dynamics of this situation.

Sincerely,

Amy Rex