



High Expectations and Continuous Improvement for All

To: Dr. Robert Schiffbauer, Board of Education

From: Jamie Soliman

Date: October 21, 2026

Subject: October Board Report

Elyssa's Mission and Mental Health Presentations

South Campus completed Elyssa's Mission with our freshman class on September 29th and 30th and October 6th and 7th. Students were screened based on a survey they completed. Over 650 freshman students were screened. One student was recommended for evaluation this year. Additionally, the Social Workers at Central Campus presented mental health information to all junior and senior students. Thank you to the Student Services Teams for making a difference in our student's lives.

New Staff Evaluations

From September 15th to December 1st, I will complete a formal and informal evaluation for all first year staff. To date, I have completed several formal evaluations and have been impressed with our new hire class. They are off to a great start by building relationships with students and planning creative learning experiences. For areas of growth, I will continue to work with our new staff and their department chairs to support them in the classroom.

National Merit Commended Students

This year, we had three National Merit Commended students: Joylyn Opare-Ameyaw, Mark Julius Sagun, and Sam Thomas. Out of roughly 50,000 top scorers on the PSAT/NMSQT from over 1.2 million entrants, about 16,000 become state-allocated Semifinalists (top 1%) and the remaining ~34,000 become Commended Students. Commended students receive an official Letter of Commendation and can list the honor in the awards section of college applications, and some individual colleges may offer institutional merit or recognition scholarships to commended students.

Drill Week

The State of Illinois requires schools to perform annual drills to prepare students and staff in the event of an emergency. Drill week at MCHS was the week of September 21-25. During this week, we practiced three fire (evacuation) drills, one tornado (shelter in place) drill, and one law enforcement drill. Thank you to our Assistant Principals, Matt Wikoff and Kevin Murphy, on planning and scheduling drill week, and providing safety information to our staff.