



MINOOKA

COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

District #111 mchs.net

*Mission: Strengthen **M**astery, **C**ollaboration, **H**igh Expectations, and **S**uccess for All Students.*

To: Dr. Robert Schiffbauer, Board of Education

From: Dr. Phil Pakowski

Date: January 21, 2026

Subject: January Board Report

Dual Credit Placement Testing

Students interested in taking Dual Credit courses next year will be taking their JJC placement test at MCHS Central campus on January 21st and at South campus on February 4th. Students that meet the placement criteria will then be placed in the appropriate dual credit class for the 2026-2027 school year. A special thank you to our counselors for getting students registered for their placement test.

ACCESS Testing

Our ELL students will be taking the ACCESS test in January. The ACCESS test measures a student's English language proficiency. Students will be testing during school at both campuses over a period of two days. Thank you to Mr. Jeff Easthon, Ms. Hannah Keppner, Ms. Maia Barrera, Mr. Jacob Karp, and Ms. Amy Hocking for organizing and facilitating our ACCESS testing at MCHS.

Student Course Selection

Our counselors have done a great job meeting with our freshman, sophomore, and junior students to discuss courses for next school year. Thank you to our teachers that have shared their class time with counselors to make this happen. We will be completing student course selection in January and beginning the 2026-2027 Master schedule in February. This year we moved student course selection online through the PowerSchool app which allowed students and families to review courses and make selections electronically.

Strategic Plan Update - Curriculum

The curriculum group has been working on the implementation of our strategic plan goals. With the new construction projects the CTE department is prepared to increase their offerings with the addition of new courses. These new courses will allow MCHS to develop career pathways in construction, welding, fire science, and automotive technology. Our freshman, sophomore and junior students are meeting with counselors and completing college and career exploration and readiness activities through Xello, our counseling software.