



MILTON HERSHEY SCHOOL

P.O. BOX 830
HERSHEY, PENNSYLVANIA 17033-0830

FOUNDED 1909

July 1, 2004

Dear Fellow Graduates:

Homecoming weekend—planned this year for September 24-26—is one of the most exciting and special events of the year. This Homecoming we have some wonderful enhancements planned for the weekend in general and our Saturday evening activities in particular. In spite of difficulties you have read about with the current alumni leadership we wanted to assure you that the actions of a few will in no way impact your ability to come “Home.” As we finalize the plans for this year’s Homecoming, we want to share these exciting changes with you.

Each year our alumni family continues to grow and we have now reached the capacity of the Founders Hall dining area. Many options have been explored to maintain this venue, but all have included dividing and separating the group into other areas of Founders Hall, which we have found to be undesirable alternatives. Therefore, we have decided to move the Saturday evening activities to the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. In so doing, we will be able to include all alumni and guests and also be able to invite our retired houseparents, teachers and administrators who were so important to us while in the school. A detailed schedule with all information will be mailed soon. Please pay special attention to our inaugural Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

Friday – September 24

- Sign-in on your class roster and register. Pick up tickets for the banquet and rediscover MHS, including;
- Attend the Spartan Ambassadors meeting concerning MHS enrollment and learn more about assisting our Admissions staff with these efforts.
- At 1:00 pm attend the inaugural Hall of Fame induction ceremony in the Founders Hall Auditorium - join the inductees for a brief reception immediately following in the dining room.
- Other traditional activities as usual
- Plan on attending the “Welcome Home” picnic in the ice-skating rink which began last year.

Saturday, September 25

The weekend continues with the familiar Saturday activities but will also include;

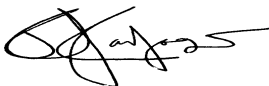
- A roundtable discussion on student mentoring, transitioning and how alumni can engage in positioning our students for success.
- State of the School update by President Johnny O'Brien and his Leadership Team.
- Homecoming Pre-Game Luncheon where alumni and their guests are invited to join with students and staff in the skating rink.
- Milton Hershey School 74th Annual Homecoming Banquet at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. While the banquet is no cost, tickets are required and can be ordered when the information packet is sent to you. Areas have been reserved for all reunion classes and several different types of entertainment for alumni of all ages will be provided. It promises to be a most special event!

Sunday, September 26

- Graveside Memorial Service, Chapel, Memorial Grove Service and Get Away Brunch at the Dearden House with another opportunity to meet our newly inducted Hall of Fame members whose schedules allow them to attend.

While we are finalizing details, we want to share our plans with all alumni in hope that you will make a special effort to join us this year and to ensure that you understand the importance we place upon Homecoming. Let there be no doubt that we want to work cooperatively with the alumni association in support of our students. The Homecoming banquet at the Lodge has been contemplated for some time and was communicated to the association last fall. It is exciting to be able to bring together not only all our alumni, but our retired staff as well, so many of whom contributed significantly to our ability to become successful men and women. Our Homecoming brochure with a list of all events and activities will be mailed within the next month. We hope you are able to join us for what we believe will be the best Homecoming in Milton Hershey School history.

Sincerely,



Ralph Carfagno '73
Sr. Director, Graduate Services