



The Principal's Message

Parents and Guardians,

I hope that your student has had a smooth transition into the second semester and has settled into their new schedule and routine. As we look forward to all the excitement that second semester brings I would like to take a moment to reflect and celebrate some of our success as a school first semester:

- 462 students earned a non-weighted semester GPA of 3.0-3.49
- 314 students earned a non-weighted semester GPA of 3.5-3.99
- 136 students earned a non-weighted GPA of 4.0
- 261 students had perfect attendance
- One Senior was recognized as a National Merit Semifinalist
- Our new AP Academy had a terrific inaugural semester
- Through fundraising efforts our SGA made a significant contribution to the American Cancer Society
- Our Chorus performed at the exclusive Candlelight Processional and Mass Choir Programs
- Boys Golf and Girls Cross Country competed at their respective State Championships
- Individuals in Girls Golf and Swimming competed at their respective State Championships
- Numerous student/athletes earned All-Conference and All-County accolades
- We saw an increased number of students participating in extracurricular opportunities
- Our JROTC Rifle Team advanced to the Army Service National Championships
- Our Music department had members from each discipline selected for All-County and they performed at the King Center with representatives from other BPS Schools on January 25
- We continued to build the relationship between Merritt Island High School and the community through numerous outreach programs

I would like to congratulate and applaud our student body and staff for the successes listed above along with other success we had as a school.

During second semester we will maintain an emphasis on the same focus points we had for our students first semester:

1. Attend school every day
2. Be on time to all classes including first period
3. Strive for excellence in all you do
4. Be respectful and responsible on campus and in the community

We appreciate your support as we continue to move our school in a positive and proactive manner dedicated to student achievement and community involvement. It is an honor to serve as the Principal at Merritt Island High School and I look forward to a fantastic second semester.

James Rehmer
Principal



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In the Know with the MPO

The MIHS Mustang Parent Organization (MPO) has been involved with many events this year! We could not have accomplished what we have so far without all of our generous volunteers!

- The MPO granted close to \$3000 in Mini-Grants to teachers requesting specific educational needs the school budget was unable to support.
- Candy Bar Incentives - Each grading period, students receiving a 3.5GPA or higher for that 9 weeks are eligible to receive a full-sized candy bar from the MPO. This is a big hit! Many thanks for the candy bar donations! We pass out over 1,000 bars each year. Congrats to all those kiddos!!
- Cookie Bash for MI staff- Before the holidays, the staff was treated to a giant cookie exchange, thanks to our volunteer bakers! Each staff member was able to bring home a dozen cookies, which equated to about 140 dozen that were brought in that morning. The staff ALWAYS looks forward to this yummy event!

Please note...

- A+ gives proceeds to all MI public schools on a regular basis. Each month they are in need of donations of water and office supplies. Those needs are posted each month. We would like to give back by helping them out with this.
- Please join the MPO Facebook page @ <https://www.facebook.com/MPOMIHS> to keep up with school activities and volunteer opportunities

We thank you for all of your support!

Respectfully,

Beverly Huff and Lisa Kerckmar

Stay Connected with MIHS

- Daily Announcements are posted on the school website.
- Weekly eNewsletter is posted on the school website.
- Sign up to have the Weekly eNewsletter emailed to you: Merritt Island High website - Parents and Students - Mustang Newsletter.
- MIHS Website: <https://www.brevardschools.org/MerrittIslandHS>



Attention Junior Students and Parents:

Mrs. Small, counselor for the 2021 class, has visited the English 3 and AP Composition classrooms during the fall semester. Topics covered with students have included: post-secondary education options available in Florida; state and national scholarships available; and proactive steps to take for SUS admissions now.

Mrs. Small would like to have an efficient way to push out information her students. As a school counselor she is sometimes given information on employment & volunteer opportunities, summer leadership camps, and future college scholarships. If you would like to be included in her emailing group send an email to small.natalie@brevardschools.org In the subject line put "add me to 2021 group email"

For brief announcements and quick reminders feel free to join her Remind 101 group by following the directions here <https://remind.com/join/d9aek4>.

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Testing Updates

FSA ELA/Algebra EOC Retakes:

Students who need the FSA ELA and/or Algebra EOC for meeting the graduation requirement will have the opportunity to take the FSA ELA Writing February 24th beginning at 8:45 am and the reading on February 25 & 26th at 8:45 am. The Algebra EOC will be administered March 9 & 10th at 8:45 am.

SAT School Day:

All registered MIHS grade 11 students will take the SAT here at MIHS on Wednesday, March 4th beginning at 8:45 am. There is no cost to Grade 11 students and they are automatically registered for it.

FSA ELA Writing:

Grade 9 students will test on April 1st 8:45 to 11:16 am (passing score on the FSA ELA Writing & Reading of 3 or higher needed for graduation requirement) It is a one day, 120-minute testing session.

Spring FSA Reading and EOCs:

All students in English 1 and 2, US History, Biology, Algebra, and Geometry will begin their end of year state testing May 1. Testing will continue until May 15th from 8:45-11:16 am daily those two weeks. As the state testing window is very tight, we encourage students to not miss test days. Please try not to schedule vacations, morning appointments, etc. those two weeks.

AP Testing:

AP exams begin on May 4 and continue to May 15. Dates are set by the College Board and must be adhered to by schools. Visit <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/exam-dates-and-fees> for exact dates. Students taking morning exams will be expected on campus at 7:30 am. For afternoon exams, students must be on campus by 11:30 am. More information will be shared with students via their AP class(es).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Students will receive detailed information such as test room, date, etc. for each test closer to the test date(s) from that tested subject class(es). Please be advised that electronic devices, including any wearable technologies, are not permitted during testing. If a student leaves campus or is checked out during the active testing time, they will not be allowed to return to complete the test.

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"Mustang Hoofnotes"

February 2020

Published Four Times Per Year

Merritt Island High School

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Issue #4

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Merritt Island High School JROTC Rifle Team Aiming for a National Championship!

While the mission of the MIHS JROTC program isn't to train students to become soldiers (its mission is to motivate young people to be better citizens), the program does have a strong marksmanship program which stresses safety, precision and excellence. Rifle Team Commander Cadet Captain Lexi S. says competing on the Rifle Team has "improved her concentration, discipline and self-control." Rifle team practice is before school at 0630. Lexi goes on to say, "You have to be really dedicated to get up that early for practice!"



The Mustangs have recently qualified to compete at the U.S. Army JROTC National Championships in Anniston, AL. This is a 3-day competition against the best Army JROTC Rifle Teams in the Nation. The top seven teams will advance to the All Service JROTC National Championships to compete against the best Air Force, Navy and Marine JROTC Rifle Teams in the country. During the qualifying tournament, the Mustang Battalion Commander, Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Olivia M. shot the fourth highest qualifying score in the nation! Good Luck Mustangs!



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Fri: 8:30am - 5:30pm

Wed= closed @ lunch 12-1:30!!

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Class of 2022 Sophomore Parents and Guardians

It's 2nd Semester of the 10th grade year! The following is pertinent information to the Sophomore year of High School:

PSAT / JUNIOR YEAR REGISTRATION MEETING on February 6th at 5pm in the Media Center - This will be an important informational meeting for all 10th grade parents.

- ❖ A student is classified a 11th grader (promoted from 10th grade) after earning a minimum of 11 credits- 2 credits must be Math and 2 must be English. If your student has failed a course in 9th grade and did not attend Summer School or failed a class first semester of 10th grade, please see Ms. Tournade immediately to discuss a plan for getting back on track for graduation in 2022.
- ❖ Registration materials and information will be distributed to the 10th grade students on January 30, in the auditorium during Sophomore English Classes. If your Sophomore does not have an English Class on Campus, they must come to guidance to pick up registration materials. The English, Math, Social Studies, and Science teachers will input academic courses- students will be choosing Electives and Alternates.
- ❖ First Semester Report Cards will be issued to your students on January 22nd
- ❖ If your student has earned an F in the first semester of 10th grade, contact Ms. Tournade immediately to discuss a plan to make up the credit.
- ❖ The Florida Standard Assessment / English Language Test for 10th grade has three parts. Writing portion will be given to all 10th graders on April 2nd and the two- day Reading test is May 4th and 5th.
- ❖ The Brevard County Graduation credit requirements are as follows:
 - 4 English credits
 - 4 Math credits - must include Algebra and Geometry
 - 4/ 3 Science - must include Biology and a Physical Science
 - 4/ 3 Social Studies – must include World History, American History, Economics .5, and American Government .5
 - HOPE- or 2 years of ROTC and /or 2 seasons of a JV or Varsity Sport
 - 1 credit of a Performing / Fine or Practical Art
 - 1 on-line course through Florida Virtual School (FLVS)/ Brevard Virtual School (BVS)
 - RIGOROUS COURSEWORK REQUIREMENT- In order to graduate from Brevard County Schools with a standard diploma a student must complete a MINIMUM of 3 credits in HONORS or ACCELERATED Coursework and/or Complete a sequence of 3 courses in a CTE (Career and Technical Education)
 - 8.5 Elective Credits

It is my sincere pleasure to have the opportunity to work with and assist you and your child toward academic success and an overall positive high school experience!

Sincerely,

Karen E. Tournade, School Counselor - Class of 2022

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The Merritt Island Mustang Mall Has A New Look!

By Dr. Wendy Anne Jesser

The Mustang Mall has new fixtures! Bealls of Rockledge donated furniture fixtures to our MIHS Mustang Mall when the store closed. Thanks to Ms. Janie Hall, our Mustang Mall volunteer, for arranging the donation. Ms. Hall even drove the truck with the fixtures to the MIHS Mustang Mall. Thanks also to JROTC students and MIHS custodians who helped set up the fixtures in the Mustang Mall.

The Mustang Mall has clothing, toiletries, school supplies, shoes, and even prom dresses and suits. Our selection of formal wear rivals that of Macy's! MIHS students and families can come in and shop for free! We are open Tuesdays and Fridays from 8:00 a.m.- 8.40 a.m. Come on in and find your dream gown or suit for the upcoming Prom season.

Thank you very much to all who continue to donate. The MIHS Mustang Mall receives donations from the MIHS staff, parents and families, the Merritt Island community, Georgianna UMC, Nu Alpha – a chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha, among other groups and community organizations. Please bring any donations to the front office at MIHS. I am in need of volunteers to help with the Mustang Mall. Please contact Dr. Wendy Jesser at jesser.wendy@brevardschools.org if you can help.





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