



Meridian High School



Vision Statement

"Each student will succeed through quality, inspirational and innovative education."

Mission Statement

"The Meridian School District works in partnership with our families and our community to educate each student in a safe and supportive learning environment to become a positive contributor to society."

Principal's Message

Dear MHS Students and Parents,

We hope you are all enjoying your summer. With the calendar turning to August, it means we are a few weeks away from the start of the 2017-2018 school year. We look forward to seeing our returning students and welcome the Class of 2021. We continue to work to make MHS a place where students learn to use their minds well, care about themselves and others, and value hard work.

While students have been away, our custodial staff is getting the facility ready for students and staff to return. We have also hired new staff and are looking forward to building on the success of T3 to help students be more successful in the coming school year.

This newsletter will provide you with information to start the school year off right while also highlighting upcoming events and changes at the high school. Please review the information and contact me at [360.398.8111](tel:360.398.8111) or at dforbes@meridian.wednet.edu if you have any questions.

I am looking forward to what the 2017-18 school year will bring to MHS, our students, staff and community.

Sincerely,

Derek Forbes

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Important Dates

August

- 9** Athletic Participation Meeting 6:30pm Auditorium for all athletes (fall/winter/spring)
- 10** High School Office Opens 8:00am-3:00pm
- 16** Football Practice Begins
- 21** Volleyball/Cross Country/Girls Soccer Practice Begins
- 23** Freshmen Orientation 9:30am-12:30pm
- 23** Picture Day-see schedule under "Student News"
- 30** First Day of School 7:55am-2:30pm

September

- 4** Labor Day-No School
- 12** Open House 6:30pm-8:00pm
- 13** Hall Pass Tour
- 26** Picture Re-take Day
- 28** Homecoming Assembly
- 29** Early Release at 12:10pm

October

- 6** Homecoming Football Game
- 7** Homecoming Dance 8:00-11:00pm at MHS
- 11** PSAT Testing
- 13** Teacher Workday-No school for students
- 17** FAFSA Night MHS Library 5:30-8:00
- 27** Early Release at 12:10pm

PARENT/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

It is important for us to partner with parents and our Meridian Community. We want to provide you different ways to connect with the great things taking place on campus. Our goal is to better inform you about what is happening at MHS and provide opportunities for your involvement to make things even better.

Skyward Family Access – Skyward provides you information about your student. You can check student grades, attendance and homework throughout the year. Skyward will also be one of our main ways for updating student and family information as we move toward improving our systems here in the District. We will also be asking that families complete demographic update forms this fall, all through Skyward Family Access. Information will be available in Skyward in late August and a step by step packet will need to be completed for each student.

Skyward is able to translate into over 50 different languages and can be done in your Skyward Family Access settings if needed. If you do not have login credentials, or have lost them, please call the high school office at 398-8111. For families without home computers or internet access, the District provides a family use computer in each building and can be accessed during regular school hours.

Communication from Home – Please keep your email address and phone numbers current so that mailings and report cards will be received in a timely manner. You are also able to submit requests to update personal info in Skyward. We hope that families find this a convenient way to update their student's and family's information. If your student did not receive their report card call the office to find out if a fine is involved.

Newsletter – In a continued effort to save on paper and postage, future MHS Newsletters will be available online at www.meridian.wednet.edu/mhs under the "Communication" tab. We will also send out an e-copy in Skyward.

Website – Calendars, school information, staff contact (email and phone) can be found on our website at www.meridian.wednet.edu/mhs/ We are continuing to add additional documents to make our website a better resource for you.

Social Media - The Meridian School District uses several forms of social media to inform community of events, accomplishments and needs in the Meridian School District.

- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/meridianschooldistrict505/>
- Instagram - @meridianschooldistrict505
- Twitter - @meridian505

Booster Clubs – We have several booster clubs that support students at MHS.

- The Meridian Booster Club supports students and activities that, in most case, require financial assistance for one reason or another. Most of our programs are represented through this umbrella organization. Meetings take place the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm in the MHS Library. The public is welcome to attend. They are always looking for new members to advocate for the students of Meridian.
- The FFA Booster Club supports students and programs that are connected to various Future Farmers of America (FFA) programs. Meetings take place the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm in the welding shop.
- The music program's Booster Club supports the band, choir, and marching band programs. A full parent meeting is scheduled for September 13th at 6:30pm.
- The Meridian Booster Club Dinner and Auction is on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at the Silver Reef Hotel Casino & Spa. Look for information about tickets, or how to donate, in early October on the Meridian Booster Club Facebook page.

STUDENT NEWS

Class Schedules- Schedules for the 2017-2018 school year will be handed out to **all** students on August 23rd. In addition to getting your schedule, students will also have the opportunity to pay for their yearbook and ASB membership, class fees and have their school picture taken.

For students who are not able to pick up their schedules, they will be available later in the week via Skyward. No changes will be made to student's schedules before the first day of school. If changes are necessary, students will be notified on the proper procedures to follow and given forms to complete on the first day of school.

Picture Day – Picture day will take place a week before school, on August 23rd. This will be the picture used for the year-book, your ASB/identification card and any pictures your family chooses to purchase. Picture packet ordering forms from Life Touch Studios are available on the MHS website and in the high school office. All students will be photographed regardless of whether you are purchasing a packet or not. Picture re-take day is scheduled for September 26th.

- Freshman pictures will be taken at the end of freshman orientation from 11:30-12:30
- Sophomore pictures will be from 12:30-1:15
- Junior pictures will be from 1:15-2:00
- Senior pictures will be from 2:00-2:45

PSAT Testing- We are happy to announce MHS will cover the cost for all of our juniors to take the PSAT this fall. The exam is on October 11th and will be given to all juniors during the school day. Sophomores interested in taking the PSAT are encouraged to connect with their counselor.

FFA-Come on out to the Northwest Washington Fair, August 14-19, and watch the our MHS FFA chapter shine!

SCHOOL/BUILDING INFORMATION

Open House-Please plan on joining us on Tuesday, September 12 from 6:30pm-8:00pm for our Open House. We will start the evening off in the auditorium with a brief welcome by Mr. Forbes and an introduction of our new staff members. We look forward to seeing you here.

Summer Office Hours-The office will re-open on Thursday, August 10 from 8:00am-3:00pm. On Tuesday, August 29 the office will be closed from 8:00am-1:00pm as all MHS staff will be in a meeting.

"Hall Pass" School Tour-Community members are invited to join District Superintendent, Tom Churchill, on a short tour of each of the school buildings in our district. You will ride a school bus between schools and at the conclusion of the tour you will be able to enjoy a school lunch at MHS (optional). Tour date is Wednesday, September 13th. Please contact Julie Dodd at the District Office to reserve your space at 398-7111 or jdodd@meridian.wednet.edu

Daily Bulletin-Receiving our daily bulletin via email is a great way to stay informed about activities happening on campus. If you would like to sign up please contact Shannon Waterman at 318-2279 or swaterman@meridian.wednet.edu

New District Meal Charge Policy for 2017-2018

Beginning August 30th, all students who intend to buy food through the school meals program must pay in advance, or pay as they go, to purchase items. No credit will be extended. A courtesy meal will be offered to any student that does not have sufficient funds to cover the expense of the meal. This change is reflected in the recently revised Board Procedure 6700P.

TROJAN TUTORIAL TIME (T3)

Meridian High School will continue to offer a designated time during the school day to better meet the needs of students as they learn the skills and knowledge taught in class each day. We call this time Trojan Tutorial Time (T3). T3 will take place on our block days (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays).

T3 is used primarily as a way to give students time and support to better understand the material they are learning in class. Some students will be assigned to a particular room for specific help, while others will be able to choose a location that offers help on an area or provides a place to work with peers. T3 is also used to provide mentoring to our freshman class, and put on assemblies and class meetings. This provides students a more consistent bell schedule and reduces interruptions during the school year.

T3 was successful last year, and we want to improve its effectiveness to help our students better understand the material, complete more assignments, and better balance the demands of their schedule.

COLLEGE IN THE HIGH SCHOOL

We are fortunate to have built a partnership with Everett Community College to offer students an opportunity to earn college credit while taking classes at MHS.

Classes we are offering include AP Stats, Spanish 2, Honors Chemistry, and Pre-Calculus. If you want to learn more about this opportunity you can go to the College in the High School page on the EvCC website:

<https://www.everettcc.edu/ccec/college-in-high-school/>

Opt-Out Information/Form

Parents/Guardians have a right to opt out of having their student's photo/image published in any manner by the school district. This includes in yearbooks, newsletters, web pages and other District approved publications. The previous Opt-Out form is being replaced with an online Skyward update for your student's preferences in regards to the release of student information. Please log in to Skyward Family Access to update preferences and complete the annual info update for your student.

If this information is not updated, we will assume the parent/guardian allows the Meridian School District to publish photos/images of their student in District-approved publications. For more information, or if you have questions, please contact Robin Brinkman at 398-8111 or rbrinkman@meridian.wednet.edu

STAFF CHANGES

This spring/summer included some changes to our personnel as several staff members either retired, resigned, or are serving new roles in the district. A **huge** thank you to these staff members for their service to the students of MHS. They will be missed. We wish them all the very best.

- Mike Protzeller
- Kimberley Nermo-Greene
- Taylor Lawson
- Linda Lehn
- Jennifer Kurz
- Jerry Hanson
- Linda Boyd
- Nicole Peck

These changes bring the need for new staff in our building. We are very excited to welcome these new staff members. Please welcome:

- Peter Hutchinson (English)
- Rob Burkett (Learning Support)
- Josh Winters (Para-Educator)
- Joe Martinez (Custodian)

We have a few more positions to fill and will be introducing those new staff members in our next newsletter.

Farewell from Mr. Protzeller

To all my former students and their parents:

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for the privilege and honor of teaching you. My goal was always to give you an "edge" to help you succeed in whatever endeavor you chose after high school. That's why I pushed and challenged you with assignments that were ridiculously difficult or Sisyphean, why I set the bar higher than you thought you could possibly clear.

Whether you earned an A or an F, I did my best to be friendly, fair, and approachable; plus, I made it my prime directive to always keep your attention with my antics, knowing that if I did, you would still learn—even if you didn't complete all the assignments.

Some of you parents had me as a teacher and allowed me to teach your children. It's been especially gratifying to see that you have—without exception—equaled or surpassed the parenting you received.

Teaching has always been more play and fun than work for me, thanks to the constant challenges and stimulation you, my students, provided. My memories are filled with my students' positive accomplishments and successes, and these will keep me warm and cozy in the coming years.

Mike Protzeller

MHS ATHLETICS

Listed below is information for any student wishing to participate in the upcoming fall sports season. **The following paperwork must be completed prior to participation in extra-curricular athletics.**

- Parents of student athletes must log into Skyward under the parent log-on information and fill out their student's athletic eligibility paperwork.
- Watch concussion video on Skyward and sign online acknowledgement form. We will also be showing the concussion video at the All-Sports meeting on August 9th.
- Turn in a signed paper copy of the Informed Consent for each sport the student participates in.
- A current physical. If you are unsure as to the expiration of your last physical, please contact the MHS office at 398-8111. Student athlete physicals are good for 2 years. A copy of the physical must be turned in to the high school athletics office.
- School insurance is available for those student-athletes needing insurance coverage. All student athletes must have insurance to participate. School insurance forms can be located in the school office.
- ASB Membership (\$30) for the 2017-2018 school year. All students must be ASB members in order to participate in extra-curricular activities.
- Participation fee (\$100 per sport, \$25.00 free and reduced lunch).

Starting dates for students who are cleared to participate:

Football: **Wednesday, August 16th**

Girls Soccer, Volleyball, and Cross Country: **Monday, August 21st**

All Sports Parent/Athlete Meeting

There will be a meeting on Wednesday, **August 9, 2017 at 6:30pm** in the MHS Auditorium for the parents/guardians and athletes wishing to participate in athletics during the 2017-2018 school year (see more information on following page). Computers will be available to parents and guardians who need to complete the online athletic packet for their student(s) through Skyward Family Access. Gina Heslep, athletics secretary, will be available at the meeting to collect the eligibility paperwork and participation fees for student athletes.

Athletic schedules can be found online at www.nwathletics.com

Reminder:

Unpaid fines from previous years need to be paid in the office at your earliest convenience. Students who owe fines are not eligible to participate in sports, clubs, activities or claim their report cards until fines are paid.



Greetings,

I hope all of you are enjoying your summer, spending time with family, relaxing and enjoying this great weather. As you are probably aware, fall sports are just around the corner, as is the first day of school. With that in mind, the athletic department has decided to hold an **ALL SPORTS** meeting Wednesday, August 9th starting at 6:30 pm in the MHS Auditorium.

This **ALL SPORTS** meeting is intended to take the place of the fall, winter and spring sports meetings that we have had in recent years. The hope is that by having one meeting at the beginning of the year we can honor the time of our parents and athletes while covering all of the pertinent information on how we get students eligible. Here is an idea of what this meeting will look like:

6:30 pm- Welcome!

Introduction of all of our Meridian High School head coaches.

6:45 pm- Explanation of athletic paperwork and fees

How to become eligible

7:00 pm- Concussion video

This will allow all parents and athletes to view the concussion video together. This will allow you to sign off on our concussion/sudden cardiac arrest form.

7:15 pm- Multiple vs Single Sport Athlete Presentation

Mr. Michaelson will introduce district-approved website and explain the benefits of playing multiple sports in high school.

7:25 pm- Wrap up and questions

This will give parents and athletes an opportunity to ask any questions about Meridian's Athletic Department and paperwork.

7:30 pm- Coaching breakout sessions

At this time, we will dismiss parents and athletes to different areas of the school to meet and talk with their fall coaches. If you do not plan to play a fall sport, winter and spring coaches will be available to talk to and go over what is coming up in the offseason.

We look forward to seeing you all out for our annual Meridian High School **ALL SPORTS** meeting!

Regards,

Bryant Michaelson
MHS, Athletic Director

WELCOME FRESHMAN

ORIENTATION: AUGUST 23RD 9:30AM – 12:30PM

Please join us for our *very important* Freshman Orientation on **Wednesday, August 23rd** from **9:30am–12:30pm**. We begin the morning in the MHS gymnasium with a welcome assembly. Leadership students will guide you on campus tours. You will be able to purchase yearbooks, ASB cards, have your school picture taken and put money in your breakfast/lunch account (and pay any fines or other fees). *We will close our morning with lunch and refreshments!* Mark your calendars and feel free to call the MHS office @ 398-8111 if you have any questions.

What should I bring to Orientation?

Checks for your ASB Items, and your breakfast/lunch account.

How much does everything cost?

*Yearbooks: \$70 ASB Cards: \$30
Breakfast: \$1.75 Lunch: \$3.00 Milk: \$.50*

Who do I make the CHECKS out to?

*Please make checks out to **MHS**. Make **one** check out for meal money and **one** check for ASB card/yearbook.*

What supplies do I need for school?

*Be prepared with pen & pencil, binder, paper and backpack. Once classes begin, your teachers may have additional supply requests. We will provide you with a **Student Handbook/Planner** the first week of class.*

Can parents attend?

Parents are welcome to attend . A special parent/guardian session will be held at 9:30 am in the auditorium. Bring your questions. It is our hope that we begin your student's high school career on the path to success! Contact Aaron Jacoby 318-2281 or ajacoby@meridian.wednet.edu for more information or if you have questions and cannot make the event.

