



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 a great summer. As the new principal I have been in the building getting ready for a successful start to the school year. In preparation for the start of school, we have put together some information so you will know what is needed to start strong as you begin a successful 2015-2016 school year.

This will be an exciting year at MHS. We look forward to seeing all students on September 1st. If your student is not attending MHS this fall please contact the office to formally withdraw them from school. If your student will miss the first day of school please call the office to let us know and include the reason in your message. The office number is 398-8111.

In this newsletter we focus on important dates to remember for the fall, information students need for the start of the school year, and ways families can connect to what is taking place at MHS. See you in the fall.

Sincerely,

Derek O Forbes

Derek O. Forbes

Important Dates to Remember

School Building Information

August

- 10** High School Office Opens 8:00am-3:00pm
- 17** Football Parent Meeting 7:00pm Auditorium
- 19** Fall Sports Parent Meeting 6:00pm Auditorium
- 19** Football Practice Begins
- 24** Fall Sports Practice Begins
- 26** Freshman Orientation 9:30am-11:30am

September

- 1** First Day of School 7:55am-2:30pm
- 4** Picture Day
- 7** Labor Day-No School
- 16** Open House 6:30pm-8:00pm
- 23** Parent Roundtable 6:00pm MHS Library
- 23** Early Release at 12:10pm
- 30** Early Release at 12:10pm

October

- 6** Picture Re-take Day
- 8** Homecoming Assembly
- 9** Teacher Work Day-No School for students
- 14** PSAT Testing
- 16** Homecoming Football Game
- 17** Homecoming Dance
- 28** Early Release at 12:10pm

Open House-Please plan on joining us on Wednesday, September 16 from 6:30-8:00pm for our Open House. We look forward to seeing you here.

Summer Office Hours-The office will re-open on Monday, August 10 from 8:00-3:00. On Monday, August 31 the office will be closed from 8:00-1:00 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 dates are Monday, September 14 and Wednesday, September 16. 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

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. If you do not have login credentials, or have lost them, please call Robin Brinkman at 398-8111.

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 "MHS Newsletter." Newsletters will be published in August, October, December, February, and May.

Website – Calendars, school information, staff contact (email and phone) can be found on our website www.meridian.wednet.edu/mhs under "staff." There are many other documents that can be found under "resources."

Roundtable Meetings – The Roundtable meetings occur once a month and are a venue for parents of the high school, middle school, and elementary to have access to the administrative team of each school. Typically there is not a set agenda and the meetings last an hour. The Roundtable meetings are a great place to bring your concerns, celebrations, and find answers to any questions relating to your student's educational experience.

Hispanic Family Night – Meetings take place one evening a month. Learn about different aspects of the school and learn about opportunities to be involved

Meridian Booster Club – The Booster Club supports students and a wide range of activities at the high school and middle school. They assist groups and individuals with financial assistance to purchase equipment, uniforms, cost of camps, and a variety of other services. Meetings take place the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm in the MHS Library.

Student Handbook – The student handbook contains our attendance and discipline policies, a calendar on which to write down assignments, and other helpful information. Students will also receive a class syllabus from each of their teachers. Please review these materials with your student.

Attend Events/Activities – Our students are involved in many clubs, activities, and sports throughout the school year. This is a great opportunity to support students and experience student learning outside the classroom.

Communication from Home – Please keep your address and phone numbers current so that mailings and report cards will be received in a timely manner. If your student did not receive their report card call the office to find out if a fine is involved.

STUDENT NEWS

Class Schedules- Schedules for the 2015~2016 school year will be handed out at the class orientation for freshmen. 10th-12th grade students will be able to access their schedules on Skyward on August 26th. **No changes will be made to student's schedules before the first day of school.** If changes are necessary, students will be notified of the proper procedures to follow and given forms to complete on the first day of school.

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 14th and will be given to all juniors during the school day. Sophomores interested in taking the PSAT are encouraged to connect with their counselor.

Fall Sports– Please review the attached document for athletic clearance information and important dates for eligible students participating in a fall sport.

Meridian High School-Fall Sports 2015-2016

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

1. Every student athlete must turn in a fully signed Meridian School District Eligibility Form. This form features the *Medical Release, Parent Approval, Proof of Insurance, and Extra-Curricular Code* on one side, with the sports physical form on the other.
2. Watch concussion video and sign acknowledgement of information form.
3. A current physical. If you are unsure as to the expiration of your last physical, please contact the MHS office at 398-8111.
4. 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.
5. ASB Membership (\$30) for the 2015-2016 school year. All students must be ASB members in order to participate in extra-curricular activities.
6. Participation fee (\$100 per sport, \$25.00 free and reduced lunch).

Starting dates for students who are cleared to participate:

Football: **Wednesday, August 19th**

Girls Soccer, Volleyball, and Cross Country: **Monday, August 24th**

Fall Sports Parent Meetings

There will be a **football** parent meeting on Monday, August 17, 2015 at 7:00pm in the MHS Auditorium.

There will be a **volleyball, girls soccer, and cross country** parent meeting on Wednesday, August 19, 2015 at 7:00pm in the MHS Auditorium.

Gina Heslep will be available at both of these meetings to collect the eligibility paperwork and participation fees for student athletes.

Reminder:

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



WELCOME FRESHMAN

ORIENTATION: AUGUST 26TH 9:30 – 11:30AM

Please join us for our *very important* Freshman Orientation on **Wednesday, August 26th** from **9:30 –11:30am**. We begin the morning in the MHS auditorium with a Welcome Assembly. Leadership students will guide you on campus tours. You will be able to purchase yearbooks, ASB cards 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, notebook, and paper. 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 library. Bring your questions. It is our hope that we begin your student's high school career on the path to success! Contact Kurt Harvill 318-2281 or kharvill@meridian.wednet.edu for more information or if you have questions and cannot make the event.

