Principal's Message

Welcome, Marauders!

It's a new year and a new look for the Marauder Mask.

The 2022-2023 school year is off to a great start and we are so excited to see what this year will bring.

I am thankful to be in my 8th year as the Principal of Mira Mesa High School; it is a true honor to be part of this community. This year, we have three Associate Principal’s (formerly known as Vice Principals). Mr. Fowler, Ms. Reyes, and Ms. Bice are here to support staff, students, and families - please reach out to them when/if you need anything. In addition to the Admin Team, we have six counselors (you will meet them on Page 2), as well as a Mental Health Counselor, on site to support students and families.

In reviewing data from last year, one area of focus for this year is student attendance. As you know, regular daily attendance is a key factor to student success in school. Absences limit a student's educational opportunities, which can have a direct impact on their grades, academic achievement, self-esteem, and success in future endeavors. If students are healthy and can attend school, please encourage regular attendance.

We are working hard, in collaboration with our Campus Security Assistants, to ensure students are in class from bell to bell and are not wandering campus. Students who miss class often are simply not in a position to be successful, so we plan to intervene and do what we can to help. When we see students out of class, we will ask for passes. If a student does not have a pass, they may be brought to the office for a meeting with their Associate Principal and, if appropriate, receive a consequence.

In an effort to mitigate tardiness, we will be conducting "Tardy Sweeps" on a regular basis. Gates will be locked promptly at 8:35AM. Please work with your student to ensure they arrive prior to the 8:28AM warning bell, giving them ample time to make their way to class, so as to avoid being tardy to first period, which begins daily at 8:35AM. Thank you for your support in helping your students arrive to campus on time.

Tonight, we host Otay Ranch for a football double-header. The team will be playing, the cheerleaders will be out in support, and the amazing Sapphire Sound will be playing some music in the stands. It is sure to be a great evening. JV kicks off at 4PM with Varsity kick-off taking place at 7PM.

Remember, there is no school on Monday, in observance of Labor Day. See you on Tuesday!

Have a great weekend.
Counseling News

Counseling Staff
We have had some changes in the Counseling Office. Mr. Silva is now a head counselor at the district offices, and we have a new counselor, Ms. Larsen. Mr. Silva’s departure left us with a caseload of students without a permanent counselor for two weeks, but that has been resolved, and we are very excited to have Ms. Morales back on campus to work with the same caseload she had last year. You can find counselor contact information on our Virtual Counseling Center website by clicking here. Here are our counselor caseloads:

- Mr. Schwartz: A-C
- Mrs. Blanchard: D-Hut
- Ms. Blum: Huy-M
- Ms. Morales: N-R
- Ms. Larsen: S-Tran and English Language Learners
- Mrs. White (head counselor): Tran-Z

Site Schedule
Thank you for your patience as counselors worked to get students enrolled in classes and schedules balanced. We are still working as diligently as possible to resolve scheduling issues, return phone calls and emails, and update our Virtual Counseling Center website which you can explore at this link.

504 Plan Review Meetings
Counselors are also working on scheduling 504 Plan review meetings and senior review meetings. Counselors will be reaching out to families whose child has a 504 Plan to schedule the review meeting and make changes to the 504 Plans if necessary. For the senior review meetings, counselors will be reaching out to seniors who may be at-risk for earning their diploma this June. The meetings will involve the parents/guardians so that we are all aware of what the seniors needs to do to meet graduation requirements.

Senior Reviews
Counselors will also be starting general senior reviews. The general senior reviews involve counselors meeting with every senior in their caseload to discuss their progress toward graduation, plans after high school, and how we can support the seniors with their post-high school pursuits. Our goal is to complete senior reviews by the first week of October.

Free Period/Peer Tutoring/Peer Mentoring Meeting
Friday during lunch, counselors hosted a meeting with all of our students who have a free period, peer tutoring, or peer mentoring in their schedule. We discussed the expectation of having these courses in their schedule and the consequences of they do not adhere to the expectations. They were given permission forms for parents and guardians to sign, and they need to return them to Mrs. Shortill Tuesday at the lunch tables near the Counseling Office. Students with a free period will be given a lanyard and a sticker on their schedule indicating the period they have free.

College Classes
We have a number of students who are taking college classes. Ms. Blum and Ms. Morales are the counselor who oversees our college program, so if your student has questions about their college class they can these two counselors. Counselors will also host a mandatory meeting for all students who have a college class Tuesday, September 6 during lunch in the Gym. We will discuss how students can access Canvas, the importance of passing the college classes with an A, B, or C grade, expectations when students are not meeting with their college class, and much more.

Mental Health Supports Available
Returning to school can be very overwhelming for some students, and simply navigating being a student, friend, athletic, brother, sister, etc. can cause students to feel anxiety. We are very fortunately to have a full-time mental health therapist assigned to Mira Mesa High School to provide regular therapy for students. We also have a counselor for the program Mending Matters who can provide counseling services. If you feel your child can benefit from these types of services, please reach out to your child’s counselor to get a referral.
MANDATORY MEETING
DATE CHANGE
FOR MARAUDERS TAKING ANY COLLEGE CLASS
9/6 @ LUNCH IN THE GYM

Helpful Links to Bookmark

School Website: https://miramesa.sandiegounified.org/

MMHS Athletics Website: https://mmmarauders.com/

MMHS Virtual Counseling Center:
https://sites.google.com/sandi.net/mmhscounseling/home

District Website: https://www.sandiegounified.org/

PowerSchool Student/Parent Portal:
https://powerschool.sandi.net/public/