



PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

September 4, 2020

Happy Friday, Vikings!

A new school year is upon us! I was so excited to see many of your faces yesterday and Wednesday at our NSO and Virtual Class Visits! Thank you to all the students who attended, and if you missed the presentation, don't worry, we put it on our website for you.

Have you seen our 2019-2020 yearbook yet? It's out and it's AMAZING!!!! I am so proud of our yearbook team and Ms. Fischetti for all of the hard work and dedication that truly encompasses who we are as a Viking community. I love that it is released in the fall as it gets me so excited for the new school year. I know we didn't get to take club photos, and I know we missed out on the end of the year activities, but I love that it's filled with pictures of what you did during the quarantine – it's definitely a year you will always remember.

The title of the yearbook is **Full Spectrum**. The first page begins, "In a school community, as diverse as ours, there is a great spectrum of students and staff to span.... their goal was to cover the full spectrum; in all the different and unique parts that make up our school community....the memories we create, spanning the vast spectrum of Mt. Hebron are so valuable and essential for making them as close knit and inclusive as it is." This yearbook celebrates the full spectrum of our 2019-2020 school year, and I can't wait for all the wonderful things we are going to experience this year!!



Certainly, it's going to be a different year than any of us could have ever predicted, and I know that change can be challenging. But rather than focusing on all of the changes, I'm choosing to focus on what remains the same – the fact that every staff member at Mt. Hebron, all of our incredible parents/guardians and our entire community is committed to ensuring the success of every student in our care.

Many things will look and feel different. Some changes will be welcome. Some not so much. It will be different for each of us. But our collective experience and shared values will ensure our success. Students have only two jobs: do your very best every day and ask questions or reach out when you need help.

We are all here for each other, and if you need proof, these pictures were taken last Friday when our **PTSA, Viking Backers, SGA** and **Admin Team** came together to welcome back our hard-working staff. Thank you to everyone who got lots of vitamin D and gave selflessly to ensure our staff feels appreciated!

School starts for all students next Tuesday, September 8 at 8:30am in Period 2. Please use the meeting code sent through Canvas by your Period 2 teacher. You are expected to view your class Canvas pages, copy down the links & be online next Tuesday at 8:30am. I'll be popping into classes every day during this virtual reality. I can't wait to see more of your beautiful faces!!!

#VikingStrong – always!
Love,
Joelle





P.S. I hope you'll join me (virtually) this weekend as I support our students. The students ensured I got my race packet, and I've been biking (almost) every morning this summer; I'm ready! Let's go!

Voices for Children Community 5k & Fun Run

Voices for Children is the 11th annual community 5k and Fun Run on Labor Day weekend benefitting a nonprofit that supports abused and neglected foster children in Howard County.

This year, the race is virtual so you can run/walk/bike/swim from anywhere September 5-7. When registering, you will receive a free T-shirt and bag of goodies. You will also be entered to win giveaways such as Under Armour jackets, Starbucks gift cards, Coal Fire pizza, and more.

Click [HERE](#) to register. Learn more about us at www.voicesforchildren5k.com



FOLLOW US & STAY CONNECTED

Twitter: [@hcpss mhhs](#)

Website: <http://mhhs.hcpss.org>

Student Online Newspaper: The Mountain: <https://mthmountain.com>

Follow us on Instagram: @mhhssga

PTSA: mthebronptsa.com

Viking Backers: <http://www.vikingbackers.org>

MTHMU Boosters: <http://mthmarchingunit.wixsite.com/boosters>

UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS

Date	Time	Event
September 8		First day of school for students
September 10	6:00pm	Back to School Night
September 14	6:30pm	Viking Backers Zoom Meeting
September 17	6:30pm	PTSA Zoom Meeting
September 28		Schools & Offices closed in observance of Yom Kippur
October 3		SAT administration at Mt. Hebron
October 12-16		Senior Portraits (<i>see Class of 2021 Info below</i>)
October 16		Schools close 3 hours early for students
November 3		Schools and Offices closed for Election Day
November 16-20		American Education Week
November 23-24		Schools close 3 hours early for students
November 25		Schools closed for students
November 26-27		School and Offices closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
December 24-January 1		Schools closed for Winter Break
January 18		Schools and Offices closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 26-28		High Schools ONLY close 3 hours early for students
January 29		School closed for students
June 15		Last Day of school for students



CELEBRATIONS!

*****For even more celebrations & good news, follow us on Twitter: @hcpss_mhhs***

Please CONGRATULATE the following students who have been selected as a part of 2020-2021 Band Leadership Team. Thank you to all of the students that took the time to prepare materials and interview. You are an amazing group of students and we are lucky to have so many eager, enthusiastic, and dedicated band members. Due to our virtual learning environment during semester 1 we have limited the BLT to Section Leaders, Squad Leaders and a few additional support positions. If we return to in person learning during semester 2 and are able to have a marching experience, we will extend more invitations to help us fill additional roles on the team. ~Mr. Fischer

DRUM MAJORS

Sr. Drum Major - Alexandra Cucchiaro
Sr. Assistant Drum Major - Dalila Ives
Jr. Assistant Drum Major - Deon Kouatchou

SECTION LEADERS

Piccolo/Flute - Ayesha Fadlaoui
Clarinet - Amanda McLaughlin
Saxophone - Conor Rose
Trumpet - Aiden Interrante
Mellophone - Gabrielle Peters
Low Brass - Finn Cumiskey
Battery - Tatum Pinsky
Front Ensemble – TBD
Color Guard - Emily Bernstein

SQUAD LEADERS

Piccolo/Flute - Natalie Gales
Clarinet - Ian Greenhorn
Saxophone - Samuel Finkelstein
Trumpet - Nicholas Venginickal
Mellophone - Nicholas Venginickal
Low Brass - Finn Cumiskey
Battery - Diana Imre
Color Guard - Emily Bernstein

SOCIAL - ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Claire Knorr
Jillian Morgan
Robert Morse
Tal Pluznik

NEW NEWS

National Honor Society

Juniors and Seniors are now welcome to start the National Honor Society application process for the 20-21 school year. The entirely digital application is available on the MHHS website under academics. Please disregard any application materials that came out last spring. They are no longer being used and will not be accepted as part of the new application. Email Mary_Sankey@hcpss.org or Suzanne_Stafford@hcpss.org with any questions. ***The application deadline is October 9, 2020.***

Parent Resource for Corona Virus from Health Services

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/children/mis-c.html>

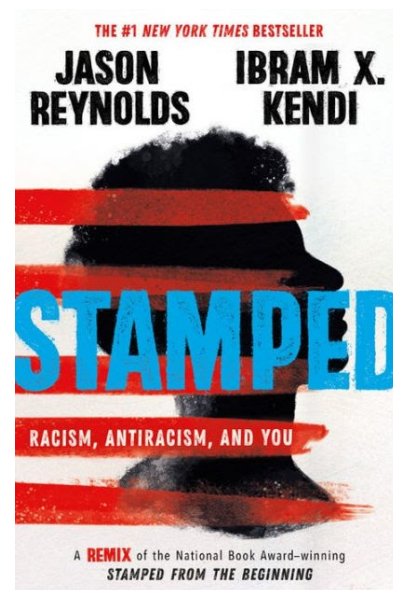
One Book, One Hebron

Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi.

Interested in making actionable change in our community? The One Book Committee welcomes you to join us in our quest to acknowledge the voices shared by students, past and present. Our goal is to ensure that future students feel supported and welcomed in our school community.

Our One Book will consist of three committees: Staff Committee, Student Committee, and Parent/Community Committee. These workgroups will participate in activities and workshops individually, as well as with the other committees. These events will revolve around the themes read in *Stamped*, as well as working towards goals shared by our community.

You can start now by purchasing *Stamped* online at Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, or through IndieBound.org from your local independent bookstore such as [Loyalty Bookstore](#). Sign up below to join your respective committee:



[Student Form](#)

[Parent/Community Form](#)

Look out for more information to come!

Lisa Viglotti, Chair lisa_viglotti@hcpss.org / Lauren Fischetti, Parent Liaison (lauren_fischetti@hcpss.org)

Back to School Night

Thursday, September 10, 2020 6:00 pm

Visit each class (for semester 1) for 10-minute class periods

Use the same Google-Meet codes that your student uses for their classes. Use the same codes that the students would use for their classes.

Parents need to access the classes **by using the student login credentials**. The best way to ensure you are accessing using the student hcpss.inst email address is to go to hcpss.me to launch Meet. We find people who are having trouble accessing forms and meetings that are restricted to HCPSS users results from browsers defaulting to a personal email account when attempting to login.

Period 1: 6:00 pm to 6:10 pm

Period 2: 6:20 pm to 6:30 pm

Period 3: 6:40- 6:50 pm

Period 4: 7:00 pm -7:10 pm

Back to School General Information Video by Dr. Miller (link available soon)

Back to School General Information Power Point

Join Administration and PTSA on Thursday, September 17th for a Q&A through Zoom at our PTSA meeting at 6:30 pm. Parents can email their questions to: mthebronptsa@gmail.com

Concerns with your 2020 yearbook?

Please fill out this following [form](#) for the yearbook staff. We will answer questions as soon as possible; thank you for your understanding and patience during this busy time! Any other questions about purchasing yearbooks or senior portraits can be emailed to yearbook.mounthebron@gmail.com

Is Your College-Bound Student Taking the SAT Soon?

[Register NOW for live, virtual, and affordable SAT Prep!](#) The Answer Class helps students gain confidence in their test-taking abilities and teaches tips and strategies on timing, guessing, and scoring. Students get the prep they need and the school benefits too: **20% of all tuition collected is donated to Mt. Hebron High School PTSA!** To date, more than 6,300 students have taken The Answer Class and over 97% of them say they would recommend it to a friend!

[Fall Live, Virtual SAT Prep](#)

[Sat./Sun., Oct. 10 & 11 from 9 am - 1 pm both mornings OR](#)

[Sun., Nov. 8 from 9 am - 1 pm + T/Th Nov. 10 & 12 from 7 pm - 9 pm](#)

Students and parents can easily register on our website and the needed materials will either be mailed to your home or sent by email to print at home. Regular tuition is only \$169/class* OR \$249 for the SAT/ACT combination package. ***Early Bird Discount: Register at least a week before your class & SAVE \$20!**

Register today at: <http://www.theanswerclass.com>

THREE Tasks for Students and Parents to Complete NOW

1. **Family File:** Please complete this important annual update as soon as you are able! It only takes about 10 minutes. Login [here](#) to get started now.
2. **Canvas Orientation Module:** Student and Parent Orientation modules and resources have been uploaded for your review. Canvas will have a new 'look and feel' this year. These updates have been made to help standardize how content is presented and organized for student and parent use. ***Students should review the module prior to the first day of school.*** Access the module [here](#).
3. **Policies and Procedure Review:** This year, the Code of Conduct and Student Handbook will not be provided in hard copy. These reference materials are available for your review online on our website. We are asking students and parents to read this document and [electronically sign](#) affirming you have reviewed the information together with your student.
4. **(Optional):** If your student still needs a Chromebook, click [here](#) and SCROLL DOWN to fill out an online form.

G/T Seeking Parent Help with Intern/Mentor Program

Dear Parents,

As the Gifted and Talented Advanced Research teacher at Mt. Hebron, I oversee the Intern/Mentor program. As you might imagine, navigating internships during Covid-19 and virtual schooling can prove challenging. Traditionally, our students' internships involve a year-long, in-person, on-site experience with a dedicated mentor for approximately four-five hours each week.

As with many professions, COVID-19 has forced us to think creatively in placing students in internships. As a team of GT teachers across the county, we are working collectively to maintain a high-level experience for our interns. We are excited to share Intern/Mentor programming options that provide potential mentors with a variety of ways to engage with and support our students in developing their career interests.

At this time, students are permitted to engage in the following internship experiences, either for a semester (October through January or February through May) or the full year (October through May):

- **Face-to-face internships** - the student would be expected to follow all safety protocols on site, and the mentor, student, and parent/guardian would sign a contract to the effect.
- **Virtual internships** - the student would work with the mentor on a project, but meetings and work would take place virtually.
- **Small-group virtual internships** - the mentor would allow 2-3 students to work virtually on projects and would meet regularly to discuss progress and set milestones.
- **Hybrid internships** - rather than mentoring one student for a length of time, the mentor would simply agree to 1-2 presentations over the course of the year where they might share their expertise, research, etc., with a group of students interested in the field from all over Howard County.

We have students at Mt. Hebron (and across the county) interested in **all** fields - business, clinical medicine, science research, computer science, engineering, art, education, etc. If you might be interested in working with our program in **any** capacity described above, please email me at mkiehl@hcpss.org.

I genuinely appreciate your consideration and wish your family well as we begin the new year.

Sincerely,
Dr. Melissa Kiehl
G/T Advanced Research

Class of 2021 Information



Senior Pictures

One of the first things you need to do as a SENIOR is to have your senior portrait taken. **Senior portraits will take place October 12-16. Make-up portraits November 18-20.** Please take a moment to read the following plan for senior portraits. Like most things school related, this year's process will be different than in years past. Lifetouch has changed their process to comply with the CDC social distancing protocols, so please read all the information carefully, and make every effort to have your portrait taken.

We have confirmed the portrait dates below. All seniors will receive an appointment card in the mail by mid-to-late September. It looks like junk mail – DO NOT THROW IT AWAY. It is a simple flyer, so please be vigilant.

Once you receive your appointment card, you are asked to log onto the PrestigePortraits.com website to "self-schedule" your portrait appointment. The appointment cards have a date range listed when Lifetouch will be at the school (listed below as well). You will use your unique ID number to log onto PrestigePortraits.com to select a date/time. To help with the "No-Touch" policy, students/parents are asked to pay the sitting fee online when making their appointment, as no monetary exchanges will take place at the school/location site.

All portraits will be done in the MHHS auditorium. I cannot stress enough the importance of your cooperation in having your senior portrait taken sooner rather than later.

The dates for senior portraits are listed below. Personalized scheduling cards will be sent home to ALL seniors by mid-to-late September; when it arrives, please schedule your appointment promptly. If you should have any questions, please email yearbook at yearbook.mounthebron@gmail.com

Photo Date	Relate	APO	Enroll	Shoot Type	Arrival Time	Start Time	End Time	Location
10/12/2020	MHZ20/21	8CKN8		Orig Day	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	9:00 PM	Room 136
10/13/2020	MHZ20/21	8CKN8		Orig Day	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	9:00 PM	Room 136
10/14/2020	MHZ20/21	8CKN8		Orig Day	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	9:00 PM	Room 136
10/15/2020	MHZ20/21	8CKN8		Orig Day	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	9:00 PM	Room 136
10/16/2020	MHZ20/21	8CKN8		Orig Day	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	9:00 PM	Room 136
11/18/2020	MHZ20/21	8CKN8		Make Up 1	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	9:00 PM	Aud. Floor/Pit
11/19/2020	MHZ20/21	8CKN8		Make Up 1	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	9:00 PM	Aud. Floor/Pit
11/20/2020	MHZ20/21	8CKN8		Make Up 1	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	9:00 PM	Aud. Floor/Pit

NEWS WORTH REPEATING

Looking for Donations of Photo Supplies

Been cleaning during quarantine? If you have any old film cameras or photography equipment you don't use any more, please consider donating it to the MHHS art department for our photography classes. Email instructor Caroline Creeden @ Caroline.Creedon@hcpss.org

Are You A Proud Viking? Become A Viking Backer!

We invite you to join the Viking Backers, Booster Club for Mt. Hebron High School. The Viking Backers is an all-volunteer, parent organization which supports ALL student extracurricular activities including academics, arts & athletics.

Visit www.vikingbackers.org to join online. We no longer are taking paper forms or checks; everything is going through the website. Your membership supports ALL students at Mt. Hebron.



Support Your PTSA

Mt Hebron's PTSA supports critical academic needs, is an active voice on decisions that impact your child's health, safety, and quality of education, and builds a stronger, more inclusive school community. We invite you to [join](#) because increasing our membership, even by one, makes many things possible. Last year we:

- Awarded seven \$1000 scholarships to senior members
- Organized a Board of Education Candidates Forum (the only HoCo PTSA to do so)
- Created a Mental Health Committee and a Latin American Council Committee
- Sponsored many events including: Restorative Justice in Education Book Studies, Diwali Festival, Science Olympiad, SAT Prep classes

For a more detailed list of our accomplishments click [here](#).

DIRECTORIES: We are using a new program called [MemberHub](#) as our new membership directory and communications tool. Once you purchase your 2020-21 PTSA membership, lookout for your MemberHub welcome email.

There is no wrong or right way to be involved – anything you can give, whether it is time or money, will support your child's potential. We invite you to [join](#) because we can do more together than apart. It only takes 5 minutes. Thank you in advance!