



Ram o Gram

September 2010

www.mvths.org

“Always remember that your own resolution to succeed is more important than anything else.” -Abraham Lincoln



A Message From The Superintendent

Welcome back to all! The start of the school year has gone very well, and all is underway for yet another exciting year at MVTHS. This year will build on many structures which were put in place in recent years. It is hoped that each of these initiatives will have many short term and long term benefits for students and parents as we strengthen a quality school. Some of the existing systems and programs such as PBIS (student reward system) are being expanded based on the success level last year. Others such as credit and debit pay for fees are new. Hopefully, each of our initiatives will serve to make the connections with MVTHS more informative and services easier to access. A system will be in place which will assist teachers and students in monitoring progress toward meeting quarterly benchmarks of academic performance. This process will ultimately provide targeted assistance for some students and expanded enrichment for others when needed. Quarterly reports will be presented to the Board of Education outlining the district progress toward meeting established goal targets. This system will also serve as a direct communication link with parents on each student's progress.

Mt. Vernon High School has a long and rich tradition. Learning opportunities and activities abound for all students. The staff members of MVTHS are dedicated that no student will be left behind. The district needs the assistance of each parent and student to insure success. This three part learning team (staff, student, parent) if strongly built can have endless positive results. In preparation for later life, students will be assisted in exploring and supported in learning. The purpose of Mt. Vernon Township is to serve the learning community of Mt. Vernon, and district employees look forward to partnering tirelessly to insure all students become all they can be.

If any assistance is needed or if there are any questions about school related matters, please do not hesitate to contact one of the offices. The principal is Mr. Daniels. His office may be reached at 618-246-5914. The superintendent's office may be reached at 618-246-5908. Remember success for each student now and in the future relies on all of us. Education at MVTHS is a "learning community affair." I look forward to continuing the work with all this school year in expanding the successes experienced and building new opportunities and achievements with our students.

Dr. Michael Smith
Superintendent

Library News

The library staff encourages and welcomes parents to visit and use our library here at the high school. We are located in the top of C Building. Parents should obtain a visitor's pass from the attendance office in H Building prior to visiting. The library is open from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. on all regular school days and on short or half days, we close 1 hour after the close of school for students. Mrs. Garrett and Mrs. Hutchison are always happy to assist you.

We will have a display for Banned Book Week in late September and for Teen Read Week in October.

Books check out for 3 weeks to students. We do not limit the numbers of books students may check out, but they must be returned. Although we do not charge overdue fines, students are required to pay for books not returned or for damaged books.

Since we have about 60 computers in the library, students and their families are welcome to use them at any time between 7:30 and 4:30. Students and parents also have access to free inter-library loan services.

We are eagerly awaiting the publication of Mockingjay, the third book in The Hunger Games trilogy.

It is very important for students to read to maintain and improve their reading achievement. There is a direct link between literacy and student achievement. Reading deteriorates if students do not continue to practice. The best way to practice is to read books of their choice.

Happy Reading!

Mrs. Garrett and Mrs. Hutchison

Parent Open House

The administration and faculty of Mt. Vernon Township High School wish to invite you, the parents, to visit the 2010-2011 Mt. Vernon High Open House. This visitation night is planned for **Monday, September 27 from 5:00 to 6:50 p.m.** This evening provides you with an opportunity to follow your child's complete schedule, meet his/her teachers, and explore the campus.

Upon arriving to campus, you should go to either G Building Lobby, H Building Lobby, or the Main Office in A Building to secure a copy of your child's schedule, a map, and time schedule for the evening. Because of possible congestion at the schedule tables, we urge you to come early or to copy your child's schedule before arriving. You should then proceed to the first class, which begins at 5:10 p.m. with each class lasting ten minutes, followed by a five-minute passing period. Refreshments will be available in G Building Lobby, H Building Lobby, and the Cafeteria in A building.

The evening will conclude at 6:50 p.m. Teachers will use the ten-minute class period to present a short overview of their class and allow for questions and answers. There will not be enough time to discuss your child's grades; if you wish to discuss them I suggest you schedule an individual conference for a later date.

5:10 – 5:20 p.m.	Period 1
5:25 – 5:35 p.m.	Period 2
5:40 – 5:50 p.m.	Period 3
5:55 – 6:05 p.m.	Period 4
6:10 – 6:20 p.m.	Period 5
6:25 – 6:35 p.m.	Period 6
6:40 – 6:50 p.m.	Period 7

Open House is a wonderful opportunity for parents to meet their child's teachers and experience the day's routine. We look forward to having you join us September 27th for the evening's activities.

Sincerely,

Ron Daniels
Principal

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RAM Pride Expectation Matrix

	Classroom	Hallways	Cafeteria	Quad/Outside	Parking lots	Assemblies	Work-Place
Be Respectful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use appropriate language be considerate Recognize personal space of others take care of school property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use appropriate language use inside/quiet voice stay to the right-even while on the stairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use appropriate language use quiet voices keep eating area clean 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use appropriate language Be considerate of property and personal space of others take care of school property walk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use appropriate language park in assigned space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> listen to speakers sit in designated areas participate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect your supervisor Actively listen to co-workers/customers Care for work environment Follow directions
Be Accountable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> be prepared to learn check for missed work use homework hotline/online academic tools make good use of time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> be considerate of other classes clean up after yourself have a pass during class time have cell phone put away during class time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> be considerate of others have money ready pick up trash eat during allotted time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pick up trash throw away drinks/trays from cafeteria report negative behavior 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> drive safely watch for pedestrians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be considerate during National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance speak/yell only positive comments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be Punctual Be efficient with job tasks Call in an absence/tardy in a timely manner Don't abuse scheduled break times Report necessary incidents at work
Model Successful Behavior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> actively participate study ask for help dress appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use passing time wisely hold doors open for others dress appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> hold doors open for others get in line at the end of the line and remain there sit in your seat dress appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take care of school property Only use appropriate show of affection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> throw away trash be aware that school rules apply to parking lot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> display appropriate school spirit Remove head coverings cheer during spirit competitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow Safety Standards Wear appropriate and professional attire Display a positive attitude Use appropriate language in the work-place

PBIS at Mt. Vernon Township High School

This year, MVTHS is in its third year of PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support). We are very excited about the coming year and have great things planned for our students. One of our main focuses this year is to create an environment which better prepares our students for the work force. Because of this, we have added to our PBIS Expectation Matrix a column which shows students the expectations they will have in the work place and how it ties into the expectations that we have here at school. We are hoping that this is the start of bridging the gap between school and the work force for our students and community.



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Hi-Tri

Hi-Tri will kick off the school year with the annual membership drive the week of September 7-10. A get-acquainted picnic will be held at the West Shelter at Veterans' Park, from 4:30-6:00 p.m., on Thursday, September 9. All high school girls are invited to attend the picnic. There is no charge to attend. Girls interested in joining Hi-Tri are encouraged to do so during the membership drive. Dues are \$2.00 per year.

Freshman girls who want to run for Hi-Tri Council may pick up petitions beginning on Monday, September 13. A special election to fill positions for the junior class will also be held. Petitions will be available in the Guidance Office and the Library.

Current Hi-Tri Council members are seniors Karleigh Turrentine, president; Brenda Beel, vice president; and Kelly Williams, secretary; underclass Council members are Caitlyn Sanders and Breanna Williamson. Mrs. Carol Hutchison and Ms. Tami Lovin are the sponsors for Hi-Tri.

The Hi-Tri League is a social and service organization for girls. This year marks the 85th year for Hi-Tri at Mt. Vernon High School. All high school students are welcome to join and be a part of this longstanding tradition. Other major activities planned for the year include a Christmas charity project, the annual Sweetheart Dance, and the Mother-Daughter/Senior Farewell Tea. Hi-Tri also sponsors two scholarships and participates in various service projects throughout the year.

Note From the School Nurse

If your child has **not** turned in his/her physical or immunization records to the nurse's office, he/she has until the **close of school on October 15, 2010**. If records are not obtained by this time, your child will be on medical suspension until the records are received in the nurse's office.

A big "thank you" goes out to all parents and guardians who had all of their student medical records and paperwork completed and ready to turn in at registration. This is a big help to us in the nurse's office.

Fazoli's Is Proud to Serve MVTHS

SMALL MEALS

Spaghetti \$3.50
Fettuccine Alfredo \$3.50
Penne with Meat Sauce \$3.50
1/2 Lasagna \$3.50

REGULAR MEALS

Spaghetti \$4.50
Fettuccine Alfredo \$4.50
Penne \$4.50
Whole Lasagna \$6.00
Classic Sampler Platter \$6.00

SUBS

Ham & Swiss \$3.50
Turkey \$3.50
Club \$3.50

Chocolate Chunk Cookie \$1.25
New York (Vanilla) Cheesecake \$3.50—with or without strawberry
Chocolate Layer Cake \$3.50

Breadsticks \$.25 Each
Sauce \$.50 Each
Grilled Chicken \$1.50

Reminder of Dress Code

It is important that students and parents are aware of the dress code as stated in the Student and Parent Handbook for 2010-2011. Student's clothing shall not detract from or disrupt the educational process or contain messages or statements contrary to the stated curriculum of the school district. Shirts and blouses must cover the torso/midriff of the body. Tube tops, halter-tops, "see through" shirts or blouses, etc. are not permitted. Pants/slacks must be positioned at the waist/hip level. (See the Student and Parent Handbook for the entire policy.)

On Sale Now...

The Prom committee is selling Ram apparel. We have white t-shirts \$10, long sleeve \$15, and hoodies \$25 with RAM PRIDE on the front. We also have cotton polo shirts embroidered with the MV logo for \$25. We are also selling embroidered Dri-Fit polo shirts. Solid colors include black, white and orange. The solid shirts are \$32 each. We also have dri-fit t-shirts in solid black, orange and white for \$18. These shirts will have a screen print on the front. If you have any further questions, call 246-5807 or 246-5809. You can also email us at mvthsprom@yahoo.com.

MVTHS Calendar Planners are on sale now for only \$8.00. All money raised benefits the MVTHS Scholar Bowl Team. Please call 246-5807 or 246-5307 for your planner today!

Student Identification Cards

Each student will be issued an identification card. This card is to be carried at all times during the school day and at school-sponsored activities, whether on or off campus, and is to be presented upon the request of any member of the administration or faculty. The card also entitles a student to a reduced admission price to certain school activities.

A fee of \$4 will be charged to replace a lost card. Students must have their I.D. for entrance into dances, hops, spring-fling and any other activities the administration identifies.

Students who fail to follow the ID policy shall be subject to the Board's disciplinary penalties for misconduct.

For more information on the identification cards, refer to the Student and Parent Handbook.



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