

Mount Vernon High School
Home of the Majors

*"Majors achieve and
thrive together with
purpose and pride."*



#ProudMajors

Admin and Counselors

(Shift to the Alpha Model)

Admin <i>Administrador</i>	Alpha <i>Asignación por Apellido</i>
Karen Boyd	A-Der
John Shaffer	Des-Lay
Lashonda Reed	Laz-Ram
Gina Brooks	Ran-Z
Adrian Williams	CSS & STEP

New Alpha <i>Nueva Alfa</i>	School Counselor <i>Consejero/a Escolar</i>
A-B	Bryce Green
C - Ev	Niasharee Frater
Ew-Hop	Ericka Jeter
Hoq-Mc	Mary McAlevy
Md-Pie	Camille Moore
Pif-Sli	Melissa Mentzel
Slj-Z	Paul Guillion
CSS & STEP	Karen Mazzocoli
ESOL Level 1 and 2	Catherine Samper

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P.R.I.D.E.	IB Learner Profile	WITHIN OUR SCHOOL
Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicators • Inquirers • Knowledgeable • Reflective • Thinkers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majors walk with a purpose and; with the goal of arriving to class on-time. • Majors aim to • Majors are available to engage in all aspects of the learning process. • Majors advocate appropriately when they need assistance (academic, behavior, social/emotional). • Majors communicate with teachers and plan in advance for when they are not in class and to follow up on lessons missed.
Respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced • Caring • Communicators • Principled • Reflective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majors use appropriate tone of voice, word choice/language and body language. • Majors are mindful of their environments and conversations. • Majors respect the boundaries and personal space of others. • Majors greet each other and return greetings to others. • Majors follow the expectations set forth by teachers in their classrooms & the SR&R.
Integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced • Communicators • Open mindedness • Principled 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majors are truthful and courageous enough to communicate with staff/peers. • Majors are responsible and accountable for their actions and success. • Majors are mindful of others and respect diverse perspectives. • Majors are aware of their behaviors and how their behaviors can impact others.
Determination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicators • Inquirers • Knowledgeable • Risk-Takers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majors are committed and present in the moment. • Majors follow through with assigned tasks. • Majors complete tasks to the best of their abilities. • Majors persevere through difficult situations, tasks, conflicts and roadblocks and promptly communicate with teachers/staff for assistance.
Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced • Inquirers • Communicators • Knowledgeable • Reflective • Risk-Takers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majors show maximum effort in all that they do. • Majors strive to create balance between school and home and minimize distractions. • Majors self-reflect as they grow and develop into life-long learners. • Majors are able to self-regulate their actions in order to accomplish goals. • Majors are team players and are always willing to lend a hand.



Mr. Richard Bacz, Director of Bands

"I am so happy to be at Mount Vernon High School for the 19th year! Helping students learn to perform, to express themselves, to learn how to work together as an ensemble are just a few of the experiences I will share from my experience as a teacher as well as musician. The music department at Mount Vernon gives every student the opportunity to belong, to grow, and to flourish, while contributing greatly to the success and reputation of Mount Vernon High School.

RABacz@fcps.edu

rabacz@fcpschools.net

Phone: 703-619-3163

Office Hours: Mr. Bacz stays afterschool on Mondays (Late Bus Days) until ~4:00pm.

Appointments for 20 minute time slots required (sign-up found on Mr. Bacz's office door in next to F103. Other office hours by appointment only.

Room: F103

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Curriculum Overview

OVERVIEW: The Guitar I, II, & III classes at Mount Vernon High School are designed to introduce students to the basics of guitar as it applies to all genres of performance. This is done through the study and performance of music literature, various etudes and exercises, and daily assessment of personal and some ensemble performance (as permitted). The courses are sequential: students must receive a passing grade upon completion of a course to enroll in the next level. As classes are heterogenously mixed (multi-level), the areas of focus are common in subject, but allow students to develop at their own pace.

Areas of content include focus on:

- *Music Literacy Skills: standard music notation, tablature, rhythm & meter, scales & key signatures, symbols and terminology, form, sight reading
- *Critical Listening Skills: tonal skills, aural analysis, genres
- *Expressive and Creative Skills: interpretation, emotion, improvisation

At the Conclusion of This Course, Students Will:

Be able to demonstrate performance skills on their instrument in accordance with the FCPS POS and the National Standards for Music Education. Students will also be able to create and respond to music in critical ways through study of music composition, music technology, and music history.

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Recommended Supplies for Class

All students will need:

- Instrument in working condition (MVHS has classical acoustic guitars available for rental). Instruments that are owned privately are **expected to be maintained regularly**.. If a personal instrument is in need of repair, it is the responsibility of the student and family to obtain necessary repairs from an instrument repair service at the most efficient time available.
- All necessary instrument accessories (pic/plectra, replacement string set if personal guitar)
- Music Binder and Music, Handouts (warmups, fingering charts, etc.) as distributed.
- Pencil
- Recording device (school laptop, etc.) for individual portfolio videos

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Classroom Procedures & Expectations

- **RESPECT yourself** - advocate for yourself when you need help or support, always do your absolute best, behave in a way that contributes positively to our class community
- **RESPECT others** - speak with kindness and consideration, support the diversity of our class, do not behave in a way that impedes another's learning
- **RESPECT our environment** - use classroom and school materials with care, do not touch other people's belongings, leave our learning space as clean or cleaner than when you entered
- **RESPECT our mission** - attend each class with an open mind and a willing attitude, aim to perform your best on all assignments and assessments, behave in a way that does not impede the learning or safety of those around you.

Furthermore:

- Arrive on-time and be prepared with your materials
- Cell phone use (for purposes other than project music access) is not permitted per MVHS Cell Phone Policy
- Take responsibility for your education
- Problem solve and self-manage the best you can
- Practice self-advocacy and reach out when you need assistance

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Grading and Assessments

Grades will be determined by a student's proficiency level on common standards-based assessments, benchmarking, and rubrics based on the type of learning each essential standard requires to support student engagement. The grade earned at the end of the school year will indicate the level of achievement in accordance with the POS or other designated curriculum.

Assignments will be graded and grades will be posted within 7 school days after the due date with the understanding that major projects/papers may require additional time to ensure quality feedback.

40% Rehearsal Technique

Students are expected to demonstrate ensemble etiquette by:

- Actively engaging in class activities, including rehearsals and performances
- Collaborating with a kind, respectful attitude towards others, their belongings, and band spaces
- Adhering to the established class norms, which we will craft together

30% Formative Assessments

- Short Playing check-ins, reflections, project progress checks

30% Summative Assessments

- Playing assessments, projects, final reflections, and quiz/test assessments

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Attendance

Tardies, Absences, & Cut Classes

Students are considered tardy if they are not in class when the bell rings. Students must come to class with a tardy pass when late. Unexcused tardies or time away from class exceeding 20 minutes is considered a class cut and will receive a disciplinary referral. Multiple tardies will be given detention first with subsequent referrals and consequences. Daily class work grade will be affected by tardiness. School-wide “20/10” rule applies (no leaving within the first 20 minutes or last 10 minutes of any class period).

- Students are responsible for all assignments and music learned during an absence.
- If absent, the student must contact their guitar instructor upon return to the next class to receive any missed work.
- Students must complete work in compliance with class late work policy.

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