

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.



Introduction



Welcome to Mount Vernon High School, home of the Majors!!! I am Ms. McLeod, your English 9 and Strategies for Success teacher for 2022-2023, and my mission is to guide all students toward success by helping them set, achieve and maintain goals that exemplify Major PRIDE in behavior and academics.

Our learning environment will be one that encourages mutual respect, hard work, integrity, active engagement and critical thinking through the strands of reading, writing, communication and research.

Let us make this year memorable and productive as we work hard to “achieve and thrive with purpose and pride”.

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Curriculum Overview

The English 9 course is designed to improve student understanding and skill-level in grammar, vocabulary, listening, writing, media literacy, speaking, researching, and reading. You will engage in an intensive examination of the Virginia Grade 9 Standards of Learning around the following questions:

1. What can literature teach us about human nature?
2. How can we promote global-mindedness through the study of literature?
3. How can we gain an appreciation of literature through study of the writer's craft?
4. How is what we learn applicable in our own lives

The curriculum consists of six units:

- 1) **Perspectives- (Elements of NonFiction)**
- 2) **Crediting Sources to Avoid plagiarism - (Research Skills)**
- 3) **The Art of Persuasion -(Persuasive/Argument Writing)**
- 4) **Why Stories matter? - (Literary Analysis: Short Story Elements)**
- 5) **Poetic Voices- (Poetry Analysis: Tone and mood)**
- 6) **Courageous Choices- (Literary Analysis: Conflict development and Characterization)**

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Recommended Supplies for Class

- No. 2 pencils or Mechanical pencils with refills
- Colored pencils
- Pencil sharpener (manual with a top to collect shavings)
- Large pink eraser
- Ballpoint pens (black ink, blue ink)
- 1 Spiral-bound or composition notebook
- Loose-leaf notebook paper
- Three-hole punch (a regular one or one that fits in a three-ring binder)
- Pencil case that fits in a binder
- Binder dividers (with pockets to store handouts or loose papers.)
- Index cards, ruled and unruled (These are great for making flash cards.)
- Highlighters
- Glue stick
- Sticky notes
- Correction tape
- Plug in earbuds (to use with computer for read alouds)

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Procedures and Routines for the Classroom

AT ALL TIMES students are expected to:

- **RESPECT self** - 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.

Disciplinary Actions

If expectations are disregarded, disciplinary actions will be taken. They are as follows*:

1. Teacher Warning
2. Teacher Detention**
3. First detention: 30 minutes after school**
4. Second detention: 60 minutes after school**
5. Administrative Referral
 - a. Given for insubordination, plagiarism, cheating, stealing, defamation of school, teacher, or student property, or other rules which violate the school code of conduct.
 - b. Given as a secondary measure if detentions or warnings have not affected appropriate conduct

*Steps may be skipped if the gravity of the situation warrants such action.

**Parents are responsible for arranging after school transportation

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Procedures and Routines for the Classroom

- ❑ Late Work- will be accepted the due date, until the end of the unit. However, any assignment turned in after the due date, will be deducted by 1 grade distribution (examples: A- to B+ or C to C-).
- ❑ Retakes- All students have the opportunity to retake each assessment at least once. The rolling gradebook enables teachers the flexibility to make exceptions by offering additional retakes. The higher of the 2 scores will be reported. Before retakes can be done, a learning plan will be developed for the student to complete prior to the retake.
- ❑ Cheating and plagiarizing are inappropriate behaviors and shall result in disciplinary action as outlined in Regulation 2601, Student Rights and Responsibilities Booklet.

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Procedures and Routines for the Classroom

All Mount Vernon High School students are required to have a device with charger for use in class. (eg. personal or school laptop, chromebook). **Cell phones do not meet this requirement.**

To maximize the learning experience in classrooms all students must silence their cell phone and put them away in their book bag during all instructional periods. Majors are prohibited from using phones, tablets, and other mobile devices in restrooms and locker rooms unless there is a medical emergency or necessity. Cell phones can be used when it is necessary to complete a class assignment or project under the teacher's explicit direction.

Violation of this school expectation could result in a disciplinary action. The classroom teacher or supervising adult may follow this sequence to monitor student cooperation

1 st Violation	2 nd Violation	3 rd Violation	Further Violations
Student will receive a verbal warning. <i>The teacher documents the infraction.</i>	Parent Notification of the violation. <i>The teacher will document the call in SIS.</i>	The student will receive a referral & violation will be documented on school records.	Will result in disciplinary actions by school officials.

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Grading and Assessments

Student grades will be calculated within the following categories:

50%: **Summative Assessments** (Mid term exams, Portfolio, Persuasive essay, oral presentations, final project)

30%: **Formative Assessments** (Class discussions, weekly quizzes and reading comprehension checks, benchmarks)

20 %: **Classwork/Homework** (daily warm ups /practice exercises, group work, quick checks, quick writes)

** If a student turns in an assignment and earns an F (63% or lower), the grade will be recorded in SiS as an F and will equal 0.7. If a student does not turn in an assignment, it will be coded as NTI (Not Turned In) in SiS and will equal 0. Work marked as NTI can be submitted until the end of the unit.*

Final Exam

**** All courses will give a final exam or, preferably, a culminating activity, which may count as a maximum of 10% of the final grade.**

Grading Work

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.

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.

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Attendance

Students must attend classes from bell to bell using the odd and even day schedule. The following codes are used to account for a student's presence in class each day.

UNV (unverified): student is absent

EXT (excused tardy): late to class with an excused pass

UNT (unexcused tardy): late with an unexcused pass

CUT: Student reported to class and then was gone unauthorized for 20+ minutes. **MUST WRITE A REFERRAL**



ODD / MAROON

EVEN / GRAY

1 8:10-9:35

2 8:10-9:35

3 9:41-11:06

4 9:41-11:06

5 11:12-1:24

6 11:12-1:24

A Lunch 11:12 - 11:42; Class 11:46 - 1:24
Class 11:12 - 11:42, B lunch 11:46 - 12:16, Class 12:20 - 1:24
Class 11:12-12:16, C lunch 12:20 - 12:50, Class 12:54- 1:24
Class 11:12 - 12:50; D lunch 12:54 - 1:24

7 1:30-2:55

8 1:30-2:55

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