

*Mount Vernon High School
Home of the Majors*

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



#ProudMajors

Welcome to BTSN from your MVHS Administrative Team!



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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.



Hello, I'm Ms. Neville!

I am a proud graduate of THE Virginia State University, and hold a BA in English with a minor in Mass Communications; and a MAEd in Education: Curriculum & Instruction! Outside of teaching, I enjoy the following:

- **Reading**
- **Writing**
- **Nature walks**
- **Travel**



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Curriculum Overview

1. This course is designed for those with an interest in exploring different forms of writing, studying the craft of writing, and those with an interest in sharing their writing with an audience. Some of you may be avid writers, others may have enjoyed the creative writing you've done in English or Creative Writing in Middle School, and now want to explore it a bit more. It doesn't matter what your level of experience is - what's important is that you be willing to get involved with your own writing and the writing of others, show commitment to the craft, and *take risks*.
2. Writing time includes regularly using a writing journal and evolving through the recursive writing process. You will use the five steps of the writing process to complete a variety of projects across *all* genres including, but not limited to, poetry, short stories, narratives and screenplays. Students will also engage in opportunities to recognize the importance of the audience in determining form, style, and structure. We will work on refining skills needed to plan, draft, revise, and edit written work, and collaborate with other writers throughout the writing process. Expanding creative writing abilities by analyzing and evaluating your own writing, and that of other students will be an additional focus of this course.

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Recommended Supplies for Class

In addition to bringing your laptops to class, daily, you will need the following supplies:

- **Notebook/Composition book**
- **Pens**
- **Pencils**

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Procedures and Routines for the Classroom

Our school-wide expectations that we follow are represented in our PRIDE (Preparation, Respect, Integrity, Determination, and Excellence) grid. All teachers and students will engage in the MVHS Squad (Positive Behavior) System in which students receive points for positive behaviors aligned with our PRIDE grid. In addition, Social and Emotional Learning will be embedded in the curriculum, with an emphasis on the following five core values: Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, & Responsible Decision Making.

Additionally, below are my expectations for this class. **AT ALL TIMES** students are expected to:

- **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.

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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Grading and Assessments

Grade Weighting

Student grades will be calculated within the following categories:

50%: **Summative Assessments** (Portfolio)

30%: **Formative Assessments** (Class discussions, writing mini-projects, contest submissions)

20 %: **Classwork/Homework** (daily practice, quick writes, prompts)

** 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. Senior final exams will be given on scheduled senior exam days; likewise, underclassmen final exams will be administered on underclassmen exam days at the end of the year.**

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

In the event you miss class, updates will be posted in our Schoology page. If you have a planned absence, please let me know.

Thank you!

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