

*Mount Vernon High School  
Home of the Majors*

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



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# Admin and Counselors

(Shift to the Alpha Model)

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





## **Welcome! I am Amy Niss**

**-I have been happy to be at MVHS for 22 years!**

**- I was a Physical Therapist before teaching**

**- I love teaching Anatomy, Honors Biology and IB Biology!**



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# IB Biology Curriculum Overview

- **IB biology involves the study of living things.**
- **Topics include ecology, cells, biochemistry, genetics, body systems, plants, evolution and biodiversity**
- **The course is designed for the “science oriented” student who is intellectually curious and intends to use their insight, creativity, experience, and motivation to design and perform advanced laboratory activities.**

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# Human Anatomy Curriculum Overview

- **Human Anatomy and Physiology** is a science elective for students who are interested in gaining an in-depth understanding and working knowledge of the human body.
- **This course covers the systems of the human body with an emphasis on the mechanisms that maintain homeostasis.**
- **Anatomy is a great course for preparing students who want to go on to a health -care career in the future**
- **Anatomy is a great course for students to learn about the human body that can be applied to their own health and well being**
- **Anatomy is a challenging and fun hands on course!**

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# Honors Biology Curriculum Overview

**Honors Biology students are required to complete a Science Fair Project.** Biology 1 students engage in scientific inquiry through lab work as they explore biological processes. All class and laboratory activities focus on life processes.

The curriculum consists of 10 units:

1. Introduction to Scientific Investigation/Classification
2. Cells
3. Biochemistry
4. Photosynthesis/Cellular Respiration
5. Cell Membrane and Transport
6. Cell Cycle and Mitosis
7. DNA
8. Genetics and Meiosis
9. Evolution
10. Ecology

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Recommended Supplies for Class

- **Anatomy and IB Biology students will receive a textbook**
- **Honors Biology will use an online textbook**
- **Students should have a larger binder to keep previous notes**
- **Laptop with charger**

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# Procedures and Routines for the Classroom

**Students will typically complete a warm up/ quiz at the beginning of class to activate prior knowledge. We then move to a whole group mini lesson, followed by independent or group practice.**

**Students should bring unit packets daily. Assignments will be checked daily/weekly**

**Students who need extra support or help may visit during Major Time or may stay after school on Thursdays from 3-4pm**

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# Grading and Assessments

## IB Biology and Honors Biology Grade Calculation:

| <b>Mastery (40%)</b>   | <b>Skills (30%)</b>  | <b>Practice (25%)</b>                              | <b>Science Fair (10%)</b>                       |
|--|--|--|---|
| <b>Test<br/>Summative<br/>assessments<br/>Culminating<br/>activities</b> | <b>Labs<br/>Lab<br/>assessme<br/>nts<br/>Lab skills<br/>Activities</b> | <b>Homework*<br/>Practice problems<br/>Quizzes</b> | <b>Final science board<br/>and presentation</b> |

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**Every unit is followed by a unit test.**

**Grades may be checked on ParentVue. Grades in Schoology are not accurate.**

**\*If students do not finish work in class it will become homework.**



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## Anatomy Grade Calculation:

# Grading and Assessments

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| <b>Mastery (45%)</b>   | <b>Skills (30%)</b>   | <b>Practice (25%)</b>  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Test</b><br><b>Summative assessments</b><br><b>Culminating activities</b> | <b>Labs</b><br><b>Lab assessments</b><br><b>Lab skills</b><br><b>Activities</b> | <b>Homework*</b><br><b>Practice problems</b><br><b>Quizzes</b> |

Every unit is followed by a unit test.

Grades may be checked on ParentVue. Grades in Schoology are not accurate.

\*If students do not finish work in class it will become homework.



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# Attendance

**Attendance is taken everyday at the start of class. You may check your students attendance using ParentVue.**

**If your student misses class, it is their responsibility get their makeup work. They may see me during Major Time or after school to catch up.**

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## IB Biology Assessments:

- **All IB Biology students will complete a Science fair project. The science fair is in February. There are multiple checkpoints along the way.**
- **For seniors, the Science fair will count as the IB Internal Assessment.**
- **Juniors in IB Biology 1 will take the IB Biology exam their senior year in IB Biology 2**
- **Seniors who are in IB Biology 1 may take the SL exam in May**
- **Seniors who are in IB Biology II will take the HL exam in May**

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