

HIGH DESERT HEADLINES

Be Safe * Be Respectful * Be Responsible

From the Principal's Office

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February 2016

Dear High Desert Families:

The months just seem to fly by so quickly. I have to honestly say that this school year has been a complete joy for me because of your support and being able to work with your wonderful students.

It's been an exciting time around High Desert Middle School. Our staff has been working hard at plans to create more opportunities for your students. We still have quite a bit of work to do before the details are finalized but we are looking forward to sharing with you these educational opportunities by the end of May. Here is a brief synopsis of what we are working towards:

- * Developing three complete houses. Currently we have four fractured houses. We are working towards bringing back the original model of the house system that HDMS opened with 23 years ago.
- * We are looking to add elective courses for all students. Some possibilities include Pre-Engineering and Culinary.

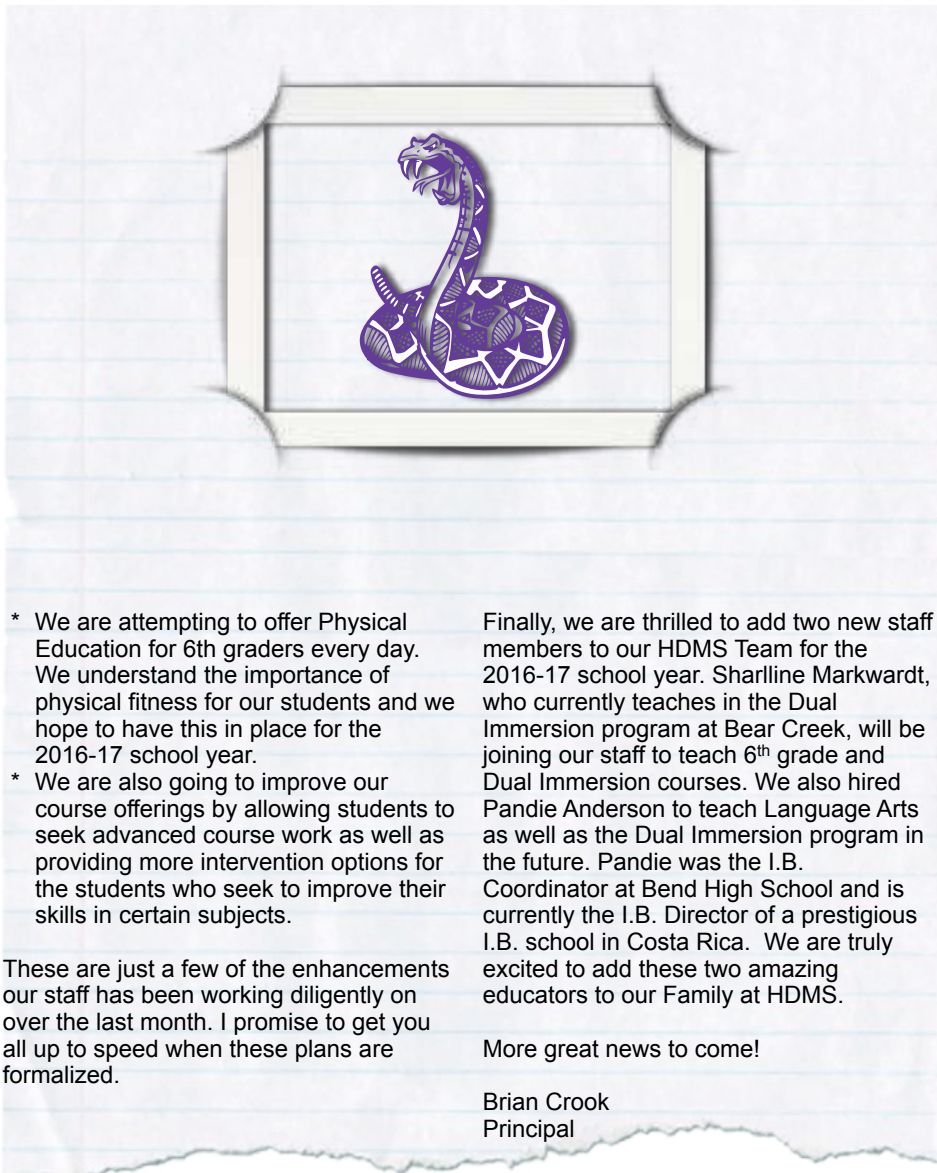
- * We are attempting to offer Physical Education for 6th graders every day. We understand the importance of physical fitness for our students and we hope to have this in place for the 2016-17 school year.
- * We are also going to improve our course offerings by allowing students to seek advanced course work as well as providing more intervention options for the students who seek to improve their skills in certain subjects.

These are just a few of the enhancements our staff has been working diligently on over the last month. I promise to get you all up to speed when these plans are formalized.

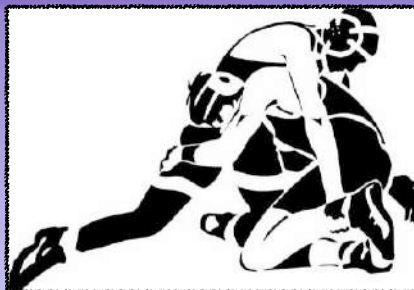
Finally, we are thrilled to add two new staff members to our HDMS Team for the 2016-17 school year. Sharlline Markwardt, who currently teaches in the Dual Immersion program at Bear Creek, will be joining our staff to teach 6th grade and Dual Immersion courses. We also hired Pandie Anderson to teach Language Arts as well as the Dual Immersion program in the future. Pandie was the I.B. Coordinator at Bend High School and is currently the I.B. Director of a prestigious I.B. school in Costa Rica. We are truly excited to add these two amazing educators to our Family at HDMS.

More great news to come!

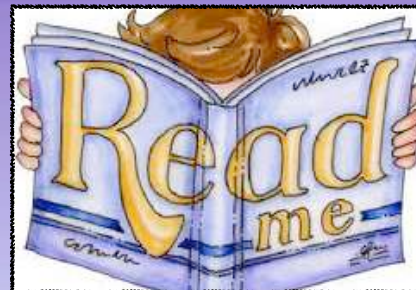
Brian Crook
Principal



JOIN THE CLUB . . . Did you know there are several after-school clubs students can join at HDMS? Check them out on page 6!



SPORTS CENTER . . . Want to wrestle for HDMS this year? Sign-ups end January 8th, first practice is January 4th. Log in to FamilyID, found on HDMS website to register.



MEDIA MINUTE . . . Get ready, Diamondbacks, because Battle of the Books is about to heat up. Want to start a team? See Mrs. Anderson in the Media Center right away!

THIS & THAT

ParentVUE: This is a great way to see your child's grades, upcoming assignments, attendance, and more. Call the Counseling Office at (541) 355-7340 if you need to get set up on ParentVUE.



Snow Days: Remember to call the Bend-La Pine Schools Inclement Weather Delay and School Closure Hotline at (541) 323-SNOW (323-7669) if you are unsure whether school will be delayed or cancelled.

Upcoming Events @ HDMS



FEBRUARY

- 1 Begin accepting Area Change Requests for next year.
Window closes March 1.
- 4 End of Semester
- 5 NO SCHOOL
- 9 BSHS IB Programme Info Meeting, 6:30pm (details on page 4)
- 15 NO SCHOOL - President's Day
- 16 5th Grade Dual Immersion Info Meeting @ HDMS, 6-6:30pm
- 17 **Exclusion Day** - Immunizations must be up-to-date
(details on page 9)
- 17 MVHS 8th Grade Info Night, 6:00pm (details on page 6)
- 18 SHS 8th Grade Info Night, 6:00pm (details on page 7)
- 22 BSHS 8th Grade Info Night, 7:00pm (details on page 5)

MARCH

- 1 All Area Change Requests due
- 7 Track registration opens, find FamilyID on HDMS website
- 15 7th & 8th grade Gand Concert, 7:00pm
- 17 7th & 8th grade Choir Concert @ BSHS, 7:00pm
- 29 6th grade Science Fair, 6:00pm
- 21 - 25 ... No School - Spring Break

News from the Diamondback Parent Organization

Parents, would you like to be more involved at HDMS?



Consider joining the Diamondbacker Parent Organization (DPO or "Diamondbackers"). We need volunteers for a variety of events and celebrations throughout the

year, and we'd love to include you. Simply fill out the form below to get started!

This year we have six different ways to support the DPO financially, and they're all easy to do!

- ◆ **2ways2earn:** Register at 2ways2earn.com to earn extra Box Tops.
- ◆ **Box Tops:** Clip Box Tops from participating products (you'll find a list on the DPO bulletin board in the main entrance) and turn them in to the Main Office. Register at BoxTopsForEducation.com to earn additional Box Tops.
- ◆ **eScrip:** Go to eScrip.com. Choose High Desert Middle School, Group ID #8563138, and register your Safeway card. A percentage of what you spend at Safeway will be donated to the DPO.

- ◆ **Fred Meyer Community Rewards:** Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the DPO at the [Fred Meyer Community Rewards](http://FredMeyerCommunityRewards.com) page. Search us by our name (High Desert Middle School Diamondback Parent Organization) or our nonprofit number (89546). A percentage of what you spend at Fred Meyer will be donated to the DPO.

- ◆ **Labels for Education:** Clip Campbell's Soup labels from participating products. Also, go to LabelsForEducation.com and register your Fred Meyer and Safeway cards (under eLabels) to earn eLabels for DPO.

- ◆ **Target Red Card:** Register your Target Red Card at Target.com/tcoe. Search by ZIP code for HDMS. The DPO will receive 1% of what you spend at Target.

Need to reach the HDMS DPO? You can get in touch with any of our board members by e-mailing highdesertdpo@gmail.com.



DPO MEMBERSHIP FORM

Parent(s) Name(s) _____

Student Name _____ Grade: 6th 7th 8th

Student Name _____ Grade: 6th 7th 8th

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email address _____

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

FORUM : OPEN HOUSE

6:30 pm
to 8:30 pm

Tuesday, February 9th, 2016

~ BEND HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM ~

HOUSE

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT I.B.?

TONIGHT, WE'LL ANSWER EVERY QUESTION YOU'VE EVER HAD ABOUT THE I.B. PROGRAMME AT BEND HIGH (BUT WEREN'T SURE HOW TO ASK) NO QUESTION WILL BE LEFT UNANSWERED!

A short presentation will kick off the evening and help unravel some of I.B.'s greatest mysteries...

How do I know if my student is high school IB material?

Is the workload as insane as I've heard?

Is there any benefit to taking 1-2 classes?
(spoiler: yes!)

What might my student gain from getting an IB Diploma?

SERIOUSLY... What is the difference between I.B. and A.P. ?!

Afterwards, in the Commons... YOU'LL BE EXPOSED TO THE REAL LIFE OF AN IB DIPLOMA STUDENT AS THIS YEAR'S CANDIDATES HIGHLIGHT THEIR EXPERIENCES AND ANSWER YOUR MOST BURNING QUESTIONS

IB teachers, IB parents, and IB coordinator Andria Lindsey will also be present to address questions / concerns.

CLASS OF 2020 INFORMATION NIGHT BEND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Bend High is hosting two different information nights for parents and 8th graders who are planning to attend Bend High next year. The first night will provide information about the IB Programme and the second is an overview of the Bend High experience hosted by Administrators and Counselors.

IB Programme Information Night

When: Tuesday 9 February

Time: 6:30 pm

Where: Bend High Auditorium

There will be an overview of the IB Programme's philosophy and what is required to be an IB Diploma candidate. Following the presentation, there will be an exhibit showcasing current IB Diploma students' experiences. The IB Coordinator and IB students will be available to answer questions.

Bend High Information Night For All 8th Graders

When: Monday 22 February

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: Bend High Auditorium

The evening includes:

- General information
- Scheduling for classes
- Club and sport opportunities, advisors and coaches will be available to answer questions
- Tour of the school
- Q & A

Please be aware that area change requests will be accepted beginning February 1st with a deadline of March 1st.



Welcome to Summit – Home of the Storm

8th Grade Family Information Night

Thursday, Feb. 18th

6:00pm

SHS Gym

Come find out what Summit is all about!
Courses, Programs, Club and Sport
opportunities, advisors and coaches will be
available to answer questions

Tour of School

Q & A



Student Centered: *Find out what the student needs and give it to them.* They are the center; all instruction, programming, school operations are based on student needs.

Therefore...

Flexible Options: *Learning is fluid.* Instruction is delivered in a multiple array of formats, times and availability (classroom, blended, on-line, independent study, expanded options, internships, etc.); opportunities developed are based on student needs.

Because...

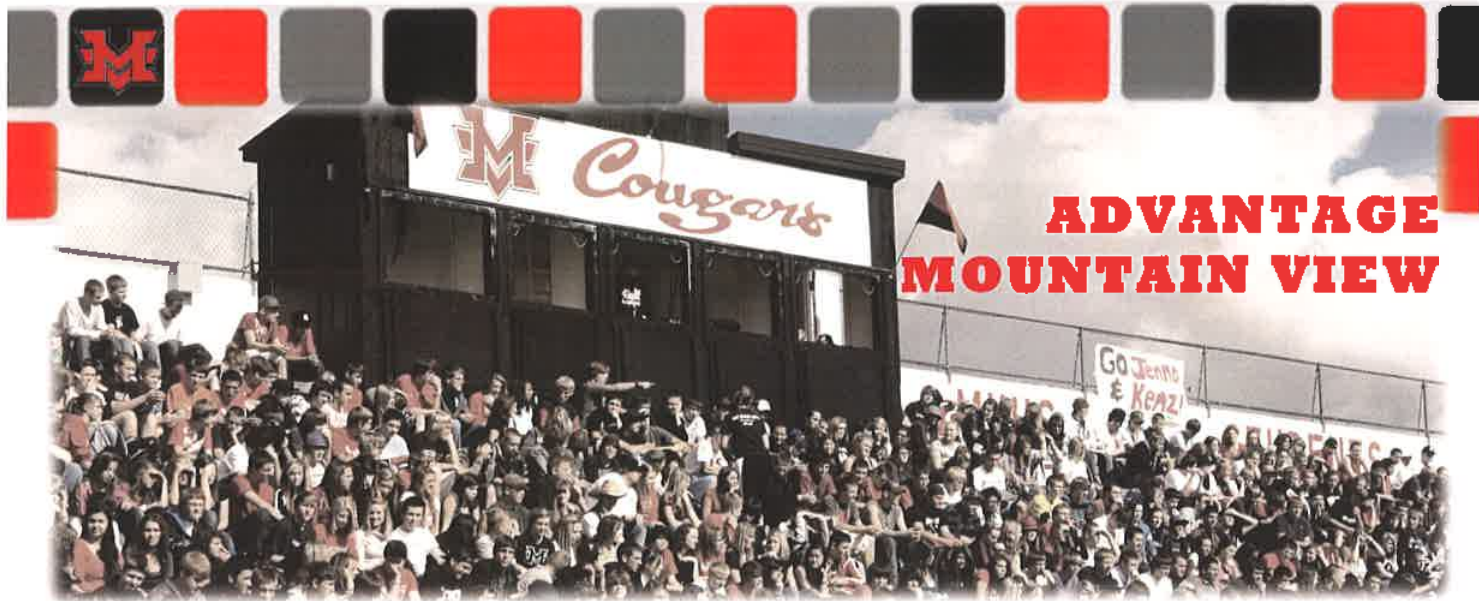
Personalized: *Individual student growth is as important as group growth.* Each student's needs are important and individualized to them; instruction is personalized to their need by being flexible with time, space, and materials.

Because...

Excellence: *Excellence is not just what you do, it's who you are.* Summit students pursue rigorous standards of academic excellence (whether CCSS, AP, International, College or Industry standards), outstanding levels of athletics and activities while developing character traits of Compassion, Integrity and Grit.

The future can't be predicted but it can be created, our kids can change the world

SHS Mission: Empower Students to Create the Future and Change the World!



8th Grade Orientation Night
February 17th, at 6 p.m. in the Auditorium

The ADVANTAGE Mountain View Academic Program

**Learn About Mountain View High School's Academic Offerings
Including our AP International Diploma, Accelerated Options,
Career Technical Education Programs and Early College Program**

- **Learn How Students Can Complete Their First Year(s) in College at MVHS**
- **Check Out Our Advanced Course Offerings**
- **See How Much Tuition Our Dual Credit Options Can Save You**
- **Did You Know Some Students Earn Over 45 College Credits at MVHS?**
- **Did You Know College Courses at MVHS are \$15 per credit?**
- **Save Over \$200 per course - or \$9000 for the 1st Year of College**

Visit with representatives from clubs, sports, activities and athletics to learn what is available for you at MVHS.

We look forward to seeing you in the MVHS Auditorium at 6 p.m. on February 17th.

Parent Information on Bullying

Parents play a key role in preventing and responding to bullying. If you know or suspect that your child is involved in bullying, there are several resources that may help.

- Recognize the [warning signs](#) that your child is involved in bullying. They could be being bullied, bullying others, or witnessing bullying. Although these signs could signal other issues, you should talk to your child if they display any sort of behavioral or emotional changes. Many times [kids won't ask for help](#), so it is important to know what to look for. If your child is at immediate risk of harming himself or others, [get help right away](#).
- Learn [what bullying is](#) and [what it is not](#). Understanding what bullying is is the first step in forming a plan to prevent or respond to bullying with your child. Many behaviors that look like bullying may be just as serious, but may require different response strategies. You can also learn about:
 - The [frequency of bullying](#);
 - Who is at [risk for being bullied](#) and [bullying others](#); and
 - The [effects of bullying](#)
- [Cyberbullying](#) often requires different strategies than in-person bullying. Learn how to work with your kids to [prevent cyberbullying](#) and [how to respond](#) when it occurs.
- Utilize tips and tools to [talk to your child](#) about bullying. Opening lines of communication before your child is involved in bullying makes it easier for them to tell you when something happens. It is also important to [work with a school](#) to help prevent bullying before it starts.
- If you know or suspect bullying has occurred, learn how to [find out what has happened](#) with your child. Understanding what has happened can also help in communicating with school or community officials about the situation.
- If you have determined bullying has occurred, learn how you and school or community officials can work together to support your child, whether they [were bullied](#), [bullied others](#), or [witnessed bullying](#). Learn also about [considerations for specific groups](#).

For more information go to stopbullying.gov

Notes from the Nurse

February 17th is Exclusion Day

Oregon State law requires that all students be up-to-date on their immunizations or they will not be allowed to attend school until they are.

If your student's immunizations are not up to date, you will have received a letter noting which immunizations are needed.

Please have your student's immunizations up to date by February 17th and provide HDMS with documentation. February 17th is the state's exclusion day for any student whose immunizations are not up to date. If you have any questions, please contact our school nurse, Karen Hecker, 541.355.6921 or Christine Thompson, Counseling Secretary at 541.355.7340.

If you have a signed Religious/Non-Medical Exemption on file, or would like the exemption, a new Oregon State law requires a Vaccine Education Certificate be on school file. Go to www.healthoregon.org/vaccineexemption for complete instructions.

Join the Club!

High Desert Middle School has several clubs already up and running. If you're looking for something to do at lunch or after school, consider joining one of these groups:

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Art Club. . . First meeting is Friday 8th January from 2:45 - 5:00pm. There is no Activity Bus, students will need to be picked up at 5:00.

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Kindness Club. . . Meets every Monday during both lunches and Monday after school from 2:45 to 5:00pm

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National Math Club. . . The National Math Club meets for math games, competitions and challenges every Thursday at lunch. First Lunch coach: Mrs. Williams, room R4. Second Lunch coach: Mrs. Hoban, room L3.

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Fly Fishing Club. . . The High Desert Fly Fishing Club meets on Thursdays from 2:45 to 4:15 in Mr. Stearns's room (R1). Activities will include practicing tying flies and fly casting, community service, and field trips. You can get a membership form from Mr. Stearns (be sure to fill it out and return it to him).
Need more information? Call Mr. Stearns at 541-355-7276.

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First Lego League. . . HDMS has three First Lego League (FLL) teams. All teams meet from 2:45 to 4:50 on their designated days, every week until mid-January.

* Mrs. Meyer's team meets Mondays and Tuesdays.

* Mr. Salciccioli's team meets Tuesdays and Thursdays.

* Mrs. Sayre's team meets Mondays and Thursdays.



Ask one of the teachers above for more information!

Other clubs will form throughout the year, so keep an eye out for signs and posters around the school (and in this newsletter). Don't see a club you want to join? **Start your own!** Find a teacher you work well with and ask if he or she will be your club's adviser.

FANfare

News from Your FAN Advocate

THE GIVING PLATE



If your family needs a little extra help with food, The Giving Plate may be an option for you. The Giving Plate provides a hearty and nutritious **FREE** lunch for **kids up to age 18** at the Riverwoods Baptist Church, 60377 Cinder Butte Road, every Saturday from noon to 1 p.m. Children must be present to receive meals.

CLEANING OUT THE CLOSETS?

FAN receives donations of gently used clothing throughout the year, and for that we are grateful! Right now we have a particular need for jeans and pants in juniors' sizes 1-9, shoes for both genders in a variety of adult sizes, and socks for both genders. If you can help, thank you!



Connect with FAN through HDMS FAN Advocate Kristine Evans: (541) 355-7343.

Who You Gonna Call?

Parents, do you know which HDMS number to call when your child is home sick? **Students**, do you know where to go when you've lost something or when you're worried about a friend?

Below you'll find a list of High Desert Middle School office contacts to help you connect with the right person. To help us better assist you, please refer to this list whenever you need to call the school.

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ATTENDANCE OFFICE: 541-355-7330

Parents, please call the Attendance Office . . .

- ❖ If your child is going to be late to school
- ❖ If you need to report an absence due to illness or emergency (by 8:00 a.m., please)
- ❖ If your child needs to leave early for a medical appointment
- ❖ If you need to get a message to your child

Parents and/or students, go to the Attendance Office . . .

- ❖ Before going to class if you are late to school
- ❖ If you need an admit slip
- ❖ If you need to get a delivery to your student
- ❖ If you are sick or injured (get a pass from your teacher first)
- ❖ If you lost something small or valuable

MAIN OFFICE: 541-355-7200

Parents and/or students, call or go to the Main Office . . .

- ❖ If you need assistance with your class schedule
- ❖ If you wish to leave a message for a teacher
- ❖ If you need to see Mrs. McCulloch
- ❖ If you need to make an appointment with Mr. Crook
- ❖ If you need to contact a teacher



COUNSELING OFFICE: 541-355-7340

Parents, please call the Counseling Office . . .

- ❖ If you need to make an appointment with Mrs. Tash or Mrs. Tat
- ❖ If your child needs help with academic, personal, or social problems
- ❖ If you need to drop off your child's medications (prescription or non-prescription)
- ❖ If you need to discuss admission or withdrawal of your child
- ❖ If you need to report a personal or family issue that is affecting your child
- ❖ If you need to report an update to your contact information

Students, go to the Counseling Office . . .

- ❖ If you need to make an appointment with Mrs. Tash or Mrs. Tat
- ❖ If you need help with an academic, personal, emotional, or social problem
- ❖ If you are having trouble with another student or staff member
- ❖ If you are worried about a friend who may be hiding a serious problem and needs help
- ❖ If you're having locker problems
- ❖ If you need to see the FAN Advocate
- ❖ If you need to see the nurse