

Marvin Ridge High School Maverick Message



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Good Evening Mavericks this is Mr. Conner with your weekly message. Most of you know that we had several resignations this fall after the school year started and that we have not been able to fill two of those positions. We have been able to provide instruction for the students in these courses with long term substitutes, the implementation of APEX Learning Computer Based Program and assistance from teachers in the building. We have been interviewing for Science Teachers since September 6, 2013, so if you have a personal connection with Santa let him know that all Marvin Ridge High School wants this year is a Science Teacher. We will set out some cookies.

I would like to personally and publicly thank, Ms. Laura Minsk, Mr. Andre Saunders, Ms. Patricia Morgan, Science Chair and Science teacher at Marvin Ridge, Ms. Sandra Tran, Math Chair and Math Teacher at Marvin Ridge, Mr. Kevin Allran, the Science teachers, administrative and counseling teams, and parents and students from those courses for your support and assistance this semester. We will be utilizing NC Virtual and Union County Virtual offerings more to assist the students with some courses second semester.

Semester Exams will be given January 13th- January 16th, with January 17, being the make-up day. Students need to present for the exams unless they have a documented medical release or a situation beyond their control for missing the exams. Making up an exam for any reason other than those mentioned will take an Act of Congress which we prefer to avoid. The exams will count for 25% of the final grade and the exams will not be scaled. Students need to attend and take the review sessions seriously.

I met with Representative Craig Horn this past Friday and he said that hearing from the people he represents is very important. If you are interested in contacting your local representatives of the Legislature and North Carolina School Board contact information is provided in the Maverick Message.

Please read the Maverick Message for other important information. I hope you have the best of holidays.

Representative Craig Horn Craig.Horn@NCLEG.NET

Senator Tommy Tucker Tuckertla@ncleg.net

Marce Savage, State Board of Education marce.savage@ucps.k12.nc.us

- **Morning routine:** The first bell rings at 7:50; students are cleared from the cafeteria as well as the student and bus lots at this time. Students are not allowed to linger in these areas in the interest of their safety. The tardy bell rings at 8:00.
- **Afternoon pick-up** is also in the front of the school only! Parents, you will be asked to move if you are parked in the back of the school.
- Please, no outside vendors may be brought in for student lunches!

Important Final Exam Information from Marvin Ridge High School

Dates:

Jan. 13 – First Block Exam/Second Block Review Session
Jan. 14 – Second Block Exam/Third Block Review Session
Jan. 15 – Third Block Exam/Fourth Block Review Session
Jan. 16 – Fourth Block Exam/Return to Fourth Block after lunch
Jan. 17 – Make-up Exams for Absent Students/Normal Schedule

Jan. 20 – MLK, Jr. Holiday
Jan. 21 – Optional Teacher Workday
Jan. 22 – Required Teacher Workday
Jan. 23 – First Day of Second Semester

Type of Exams: We have four types – EOC, NC Common Exams, IMS, and Teacher-Made. Your student's teacher can address which type your student will take next month. A list of EOC courses and NC Final Exams will be posted on our website soon. IMS tests are for all CTE courses. All other exams are teacher-made.

Attendance: Attendance during exam days is required for all students, for both exam sessions and review sessions. Our normal school hours apply, but the schedule and lunch times will be adjusted. January 17 is an important day for any students who have missed an exam earlier in the week due to illness. It has been publicized for the last month that family vacation plans are not excused and that students cannot take exams early. We apologize that any requests for exceptions cannot be honored.

Testing Window: New rules from NCDPI (North Carolina Department of Public Instruction) require that testing must be completed by January 17. This is true for ALL types of exams: EOC, NC Common Exams, IMS, and Teacher-Made.

Percentage: All high school exams count 25% of a student's grade for the semester. Please emphasize this point to students and help them to recognize the opportunity of a positive outcome and the consequence of a negative one.

Exam review: All teachers are expected to help students with review during class time and to distribute a review guide to students prior to testing. Study guides will also be available on teacher Moodle pages. Please look for these after winter break, but it is never too early for your student to begin organizing and reviewing material.

Academic Integrity: Please remind students of our Academic Core Values on p.5 and posted in previous editions of the Maverick Message. **The penalty for cheating of any kind is a "0" on a final exam.** Students will be required to turn in cell phones during testing sessions, and it is our strong recommendation that they are not brought to school on these days.

Your student's success is always our primary concern. Please contact the school (your child's teachers, grade level counselor, or grade level administrator) if you have any questions or concerns.

Last Week's Results:

Coming up this week:

Tuesday, December 17
Basketball @ Monroe has been cancelled!

Thursday, December 19
Winter Track @ Providence

Friday, December 20-21
Wrestling @ Spartan Duals

Varsity Girls and Boys Basketball will play in the Holy Angels Tournament at Charlotte Latin and Charlotte Catholic over the Break. Please come out and watch our Mavericks in action.

**Goooo
Mavericks!!**

Men's Soccer and Varsity Cheerleaders Honored by the Union
County Board of Education on December 10, 2013



Guidance and School Counseling Updates

Scholarships of the Week:

King's College Exam Scholarship: Amount: \$5,000.00 **Criteria:** On Saturday, January 11, 2014, King's College will award four scholarships to the four highest scorers on their general knowledge exam. **Deadline: January 11th, 2014. How to Apply:** King's College Admissions, call 704-372-0266 or 1-800-768-2255 to register.

Meredith College Teaching Fellows Program: Meredith College, an all-women's college in Raleigh, NC, will offer this scholarship to North Carolina students committing to a profession in teaching. The program includes several enrichment opportunities including: 2-year internships in one of the nation's leading school systems, an honors core of 15-17 semester hours, including an honors thesis, seminars on current topics in education, a sophomore trip to look at education in a broader context, focus on excellence cultural and social events, and an opportunity to study abroad. The deadline to apply for the Meredith College Teaching Fellow Program is **January 15, 2014**. To apply to the Meredith College Teaching Fellows Program, visit www.meredith.edu/teachfel.

Class of
2014!
ZingerBug.com

Scholarship Total:

The Class of 2014 has reported over **\$1,798, 400.00** in scholarship money so far! Continue to send in your scholarship offers to Ms. Kanna to be included in the graduation program and to be recognized at the Award Day Ceremony in May.

PSAT Score Reports will be given out during lunches on Thursday, December 19th for all students who took the test in October.

Important Announcements:

****Schedule change forms for second semester courses will be available in the guidance office beginning Monday, January 13, 2014.** No schedule changes will be considered or before that time. Approved reasons for schedule changes will be published on our website and in a future newsletter.



Three former Marvin Ridge High School graduates that currently attend Duke University will be at school on Tuesday, December 17th during all four lunches. They are full of information that they want to share. Please stop by and see them!

Attention Juniors - If you are interested in Engineering for a career there is a possible internship experience for the upcoming summer with Goulston Technologies. Please see Ms. Lawson if you are interested.

PowerSchool Parent Portal Information

Letters with logins for each high school student may be picked up in the main office now during regular office hours, 8:00-5:00. However, please be patient if staff members are involved with assigned duties.

Special Announcement...Save the Dates!

Mr. Bronstad, Ms. Riddle, Ms. McDonald, and Ms. Filter are once again offering an ACT prep class to prepare students for the spring ACT testing sessions. Overall test strategies will be given as well as strategies and practice for each section of the ACT exam: math, science, reading, and grammar. Students will receive 3 hours of instruction for each section. The class will last 6 weeks and will start on Tuesday, January 23rd and continue until Thursday, February 27th. Dates are listed on the registration form.. **The cost is \$250 and checks should be made payable to Christine Riddle.** Students will be registered for the class upon receipt of payment and registration is on a first come, first served basis. There are a limited number of spots so please register early. Registration forms are available in guidance.



Remember, ALL juniors take the ACT on March 4.

What does it mean to be a Maverick?



CREST, MASCOT AND COLORS

The MRHS Crest symbolizes our ideal for a world-class school. The globe is centrally located to represent our commitment to a global learning approach. Surrounding the globe are representations of each major area of study and athletics.

Our mascot is the Maverick, which symbolizes freedom, spirit, and individuality. Its' legend dates back to the 1800's to a strong white stallion living in freedom in the wild. A Maverick is independent in behavior and thought.

Our Colors are Orange, Royal Blue and White. These colors symbolize the following:

Orange - worthy ambition

Royal Blue - truth and loyalty

White - peace and sincerity

ACADEMIC CORE VALUES

Our Academic Core Values are based on the symbolism of our school colors. They represent what it means to be a Maverick and our honor code in all academic pursuits and discourse.

Worthy Ambition requires Mavericks to set high goals and to work to their greatest potential in all endeavors.

Truth and Loyalty require Mavericks to use honesty in all assignments, tests, projects, and research. This includes avoidance of: plagiarism, collusion, duplication, misconduct, and disclosing or receiving information that gives one an unfair advantage.

Peace and Sincerity require Mavericks to maintain a conducive, safe learning environment for all and to consider alternate viewpoints as well as consequences fully and fairly before making a judgment, statement, or academic decision.

Performance and Club Happenings

The Men's and Women's Ensembles will present a holiday concert on Wednesday, December 18 at 7:30 PM. Admission is free. These are the best choirs MRHS has produced in its short history. We are excited to present beautiful seasonal songs for your enjoyment and hope to have a large audience to support these wonderfully talented singers!

The Crushing Cancer Club will be hosting a loose change drive during lunches this week to raise money for a family in Waxhaw. Their son, who attends Waxhaw elementary school, is being treated for an inoperable brain tumor. Please open your hearts and make a donation to this worthy cause.

Walk 4 Water will be selling donuts FRIDAY December 20 before school by the front entrance. Don't forget to bring your money! \$6 per dozen and \$1 per donut. Please have exact change!

Busy Fall for MRHS BETA Club

Text of Letter to Ms. May from National Beta Club:

*"Congratulations to the National Beta Sponsor and Beta students in your school for being named a **National Beta School of Distinction**. This national award speaks highly of your commitment to academic rigor and illustrates your dedication to preparing students for college and career readiness."*

The letter included a banner that will hang in the school. Beta Club inducted newest members on November 14 and recently spent the afternoon of Friday, December 13 at White Oak Nursing Home in Waxhaw. About 50 members entertained the residents with songs and music and stayed a while to visit as well as donate gifts.



First Annual Sadie Hawkins Dance— Saturday December 14, 2013

Over 600 students packed the unrecognizable Maverick Café as it was transformed into a Winter Wonderland of lights, stars, and snow. Students enjoyed a night of good fun and music thanks to the Senior Class and Student Council.



Special appreciation for making this event a success and hopefully an annual tradition: Senior Class Officers and StuCo Volunteers (especially the Decorating and Clean-up Crews); Ms. Debbie Every, Ms. Heather Carnes, Mr. Matt Gain, Ms. Sarah Wade, and Ms. Alison Dumas; Chaperones who gave up their Saturday night, Officer Sullivan, and the Admin Team.