9th Grade Registration
Information Handbook
2020-2021

MBHS
class of
2024

Montgomery Blair High School
51 University Blvd., East
Silver Spring, Maryland 20901
Main Office: 301-649-2800
Counseling Office: 301-649-2810
Website: www.mbhs.edu

Renay Johnson, Principal
GO BLAZERS!!!
Registration Information Handbook

Counseling Assignments (subject to change)

Resource Counselor, Mrs. Makeyda Soriano

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Last Name</th>
<th>Counselor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A – Bl</td>
<td>Ms. Agbedina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bm – C</td>
<td>Mr. Kirk Simms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D – F</td>
<td>Mr. Kareef Overton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G – He</td>
<td>Ms. Emily Putney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hf – La</td>
<td>Mr. Tim Rossini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lb – Mg</td>
<td>Mrs. MacKenzie Cho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mh – Pe</td>
<td>Mr. Alphonso Burwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pf – Sa</td>
<td>Ms. Antia Reddicks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sb – Ts</td>
<td>Ms. Rachel Greene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tt – Z</td>
<td>Ms. Belvey Russ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESOL 4 – 5</td>
<td>Mrs. Jennifer Poole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESOL 1 and 2/METS 1 and 2</td>
<td>Ms. Lia Contreras (SBEC)</td>
</tr>
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Program Coordinators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coordinators</th>
<th>Counselor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academies Coordinator</td>
<td>Ms. Beth Sanchez</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magnet Program Coordinator</td>
<td>Mr. Peter Ostrander</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communications Arts Program Coordinator</td>
<td>Ms. Sarah Fillman</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESOL Program Coordinator</td>
<td>Ms. Theresa Hiller</td>
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Academy Team Leaders

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<tr>
<th>Academy</th>
<th>Leader</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academy of Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>Mr. Kevin Murley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academy of Human Service Professions</td>
<td>Ms. Sandra Jacobs-Ivey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academy of International Studies &amp; Law</td>
<td>Mr. Paul K. Moose</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academy of Media, Music, &amp; The Arts</td>
<td>Mr. Michael Horne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academy of Science, Technology, Engineering, &amp; Math</td>
<td>Mr. John Haigh</td>
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The Registration Process

December
- Teachers enter recommendations for English, math, science, social studies, and world language courses. Labels are generated with student’s specific recommendations and placed on the registration card.

February
- High school counselors go to the middle schools and do the following:
  - Provide a pre-labeled registration card to each student
  - Provide an MBHS Registration Information Handbook
  - Counselors will spend 15 minutes discussing graduation requirements and how to choose courses
  - Students will circle their recommended courses and choose five electives
  - Using a Chrome book, students will log onto the scheduling system and enter their courses
  - Student will take the registration card home for parent/guardian review and signature
  - Student will return the signed registration card to the 8th grade counselor by due date given
- An evening Registration Information Meeting for parents will be held at the high school for the parents to review the registration process on Tuesday, February 12th, 2020.
- Counselors review requests for accuracy.

April
- A Course Selection Form is mailed to all students, listing the courses that the student has signed up for. Students and parents can make necessary changes on the form and return to their counselor by May 8th, 2020. Counselors will then make necessary changes that are requested by parents and students from the Course Selection Form.

May-July
- Counselors review student schedules using report cards and transcripts. If there are conflicts and/or students need additional courses for graduation, students are notified. If there are questions or concerns about the student’s schedule during the summer, contact the Counseling Office.

MBHS Schedule Change Process
The courses we offer, and the number of sections of each course we offer, are based on the initial registration of students. Student choices determine staffing and educational material purchases that influence the operation of Blair for next year. Therefore, students and parents must consider their course selections, including honors-level decisions, carefully before registering. All students will receive a list of their individual course selections in the spring. If a change is necessary, students should make the correction and return it to the Counseling Office by May 8th, 2020. Changes after this date are not guaranteed unless they are for one of the following reasons:
  1. A class missing is from the schedule
  2. The student is enrolled in a class he/she has already passed
  3. The student is enrolled in a class where he/she has not met the pre-requisite
  4. The student needs a course for graduation that is not in the schedule
  5. The student needs to change a class due to a documented health or special needs reason.
# Maryland High School Diploma Requirements

## MCPS Graduation Requirements at a Glance

Students shall be enrolled in a Montgomery County Public School and have earned a minimum of 22 credits (unless a pre-approved MCPS alternative is satisfied) that include the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Credits Required</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>4 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3 Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Education</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Education</td>
<td>0.5 credit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>OPTION 1:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 credits in a world language, which may include American Sign Language AND 2.5 credits in elective courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>OPTION 2:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 credits in advanced technology education (AT) AND 2.5 credits in elective courses</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>OPTION 3:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4 credits in a state-approved career and technology program AND 0.5 credit in electives courses</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Service Learning/SSL</td>
<td>75 service-learning hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Assessments</td>
<td></td>
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State Assessments: All students must meet the state requirements for the HSA and PARCC tests based on their Original Year of Graduation and year the specific course was taken. Please see the specific graduation requirements for further details.
Promotion Regulation

MCPS Regulation JEB-RA, Placement, Promotion, Acceleration, and Retention of Students, http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/policy/pdf/jebra.pdf, requires that high school students earn five credits each year in order to be promoted, including specific required credits in English, mathematics, science, and social studies as indicated in the chart below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>End of:</th>
<th>Total Credits Needed for Promotion to Next Grade</th>
<th>Total Credits in Required Courses</th>
<th>Other Courses-See Options Required for Graduation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Programs and Academies @ MBHS

9th Graders: by the end of your freshman year, you will be asked to select an Academy Program that you will follow through your senior year at MBHS. Start thinking about which Academy meets your interests and college/career goals. You will learn much more about these Academies during your 9th grade year. Stay tuned!!!

Programs

Communications & Arts Program (CAP)
The Communication Arts Program is an application-only, four-year, honors-level program with an interdisciplinary approach designed for students who wish to develop their intellectual, creative, and communications skills in the fields of media and the humanities. Once admitted to the program, students must successfully complete twelve CAP courses, maintain a minimum 2.75 GPA, and complete the CAP portfolio to graduate with the CAP certificate. Students in CAP take an 8-period day schedule.

Science, Math, & Computer Science Magnet Program
The Magnet Program is an application-only, four-year accelerated interdisciplinary program in science, mathematics and computer science for highly able students. After building a solid foundation in Grades 9 and 10, students are able to specialize in the areas of their choice. Students in the Magnet Program have an 8-period day schedule.

English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program
The English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL) program provides high-quality English language instruction that assists students in acquiring the basic interpersonal communication skills essential academic language proficiency to function successfully in a regular classroom. Students develop competency in understanding spoken English, using grammatically correct English to express social and academic needs, and organizing clearly expressing their ideas in written English. Students are recommended for this program based on language skill assessments.
Academies

**Academy of Entrepreneurship & Business Management (ENT)**
The Academy of Entrepreneurship will teach students to think creatively and strategically about the skills needed to start their own businesses. Using a hands-on approach to planning and building a business, students will acquire experience in marketing and advertising, finance and accounting, economics, law, human resources, organizational behavior, and profit-maximization. Students may use the Entrepreneurship Academy as a gateway to university Entrepreneurship programs (University of Maryland, Harvard, Penn State, etc.) or as the starting point to a career.

**Academy of Human Services Professions (HSP)**
Students who envision a career in which they are of service to people may choose to join the Academy of Human Service Professions. Here, the foundation will be laid for careers such as physical therapist, fitness advisor, emergency medical technician, nursing assistant, athletic trainer, health educator, teacher, teacher’s aide, social worker, psychologist, firefighter, paralegal, lawyer, and court translator. Knowledge of human psychology and the ability to speak more than one language will be emphasized in all areas, and internships in the community will be available.

**Academy of International Studies & Law (ISL)**
The Academy of International Studies and Law has two strands. The International Studies strand offers courses and experiences designed to help students grow as “global citizens” well versed in political systems, languages, cultures and economies of nations around the world. Students will interact with government and private agencies, foreign embassies, and businesses as they gather the skills and prepare to make contributions which positively impact our world in the areas of conflict resolution, economic issues and the environment. The Justice, Law and Society strand is designed for those students who wish to study and work in the many fields where knowledge of legal systems is required. Courses address the Constitution and Bill of Rights issues, the study of forensics, and criminal and civil law. Students will examine contemporary legal issues at they work with local private and public legal professionals as well as Blair debate and mock trial teams. There are many areas where the fields of international studies and the law overlap, and classes such as International Human Rights and other scheduled events provide exposure to issues of law in the spheres of international diplomacy, business and human rights.

**Academy of Media, Music, & the Arts (MMA)**
Students in the Academy of Media, Music, & the Arts develop the ability to read, analyze, evaluate, and produce communications in written text, moving images, still images, and sound. Students will learn to read critically, interpret analytically, communicate effectively, and produce messages for both meaning and persuasion. Any field involving art, music, film, radio, video, television, theater, literature, journalism, or photography requires an understanding of effective communication. Because some careers favor a broad background and others demand specialization, the Media, Music, & the Arts courses will cover diverse areas. A student may create a program of courses spanning several areas, all relevant to a particular career area, or he/she may choose to explore one specific area in depth.

**Academy of Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM)**
Students in the Academy of Science, Math, and Technology will experience the connections among the three disciplines as they prepare for a career in this area. The emphasis will be on hands-on problem solving, analytical thinking, data analysis and research skills. Career goals include, but are not limited to, data base administrator, network specialist, software engineer, computer technician, surveyor, civil engineer, robotics specialist, genetic technologist, forensic scientist, physician, veterinarian, lab technician, mathematician, statistician, and researcher. Careers in this area span a broad spectrum from applied to theoretical.
Elective Course Descriptions
For Incoming 9th Grade

Fine Arts Electives

Please visit http://finearts.mbhs.edu for more detailed information on music and visual art courses.

**Foundations of Art & Culture**
Students will explore the fundamentals of two-dimensional studio art media (e.g. drawing, painting, printmaking, collage) and three-dimensional studio art media (e.g. ceramics, sculpture, functional craft, contemporary media) to create original work. They will explore how to use formal qualities and compositional devices to make aesthetic choices that communicate narrative.

**Functional Fine Art & Craft**
Students will explore a variety of traditional and contemporary materials used to create functional fine art and craft (e.g. basketry, fibers, glass, jewelry, metal, mixed media, paper, pottery, wearable art, wood). Students will examine the social significance of functional works and how artisans’ design and decoration can be used to communicate narrative.

**2-D Studio Art 1**
Students will develop observational drawing and rendering skills while exploring a variety of media, tools, and techniques. In addition to drawing, students will have the opportunity to create works of art using conventional and contemporary two-dimensional studio media (e.g. painting, printmaking, collage). Creative problem-solving skills are developed as students discover how formal qualities and compositional devices are used to make aesthetic choices in artwork that communicates narrative.

**Fashion Illustration**
Through interactions with and analysis of fashion, students will better understand society, culture, and history. Students will focus on drawing the human figure, both realistically and as stylized by the fashion industry. They will explore different materials and textiles used in designs. They will develop a personal narrative through original designs for various garments and accessories, and present a collection of fashion illustrations.

**Ceramics/Sculpture 1**
Students learn basic hand-building techniques and glazing processes. Included are the composition and general characteristics of clay bodies, safe studio practices, craftsmanship, and surveys of significant styles in pottery and ceramic sculpture. An introduction to the wheel may be presented.

**Digital Art 1**
Students use the computer as a tool to create portraits, illustrations, commercial/advertising art, and animations. Students discuss ethical and safety issues in the use of computers as an instructional tool. A variety of techniques, processes, and applications are studied. Students work to develop a portfolio of digital art.

**Photo 1**
Students will explore the fundamentals of photography (e.g. operating a camera, refining images, and printing photographs) that explore both traditional and contemporary practices and utilize tools that reflect industry standards in preparation for college and career. They will explore how to use formal qualities and compositional devices to make aesthetic choices that communicate narrative in a photograph.

**Printmaking**
Students are challenged to create original artwork by synthesizing concepts and skills while engaging in conventional as well as contemporary printmaking processes (e.g. relief, intaglio, screen print, monoprint or monotype, experimental/non-traditional).
**Chorus**
Students learn the fundamentals of choral singing technique, including diction, breathing, tone production, intonation, self-expression through singing, and ensemble and music reading skills. Membership in this choral group is open to all students and previous choral experience is not required. A wide variety of choral music is used, and the group performs occasionally at school and community programs. Show Choir or Chorus 2 are also offered to 9th graders by audition only. Please email Isabel_Hernandez-Cata@mcpsmd.org for audition information.

**Piano 1**
Students acquire standard piano technique and learn to read music written for the instrument. This course is open to all students regardless of musical background. In an instructional setting that allows individuals to receive assistance as needed, students develop effective practice habits so they will be able to progress independently.

**Guitar 1**
Students learn beginning guitar technique, including selected major, minor, and seventh chords; basic finger picks and strums; and tuning technique. Music theory and historical perspective are studied as they relate to guitar performance. This course is open to all students regardless of music background.

**Concert Band**
Students will develop and refine the skills that will enable them to perform music at the Grade III level of difficulty. Basic transposition, melodic dictation, and triad development are included. Public performances outside of the school day may be required to meet course objectives. This course may be repeated for credit. This course is recommended for most incoming freshman in band. *Symphonic Band and Chamber Orchestra are also offered to 9th grade students by audition only. Please email Raife_E_Oldham@mcpsmd.org for more information.

**Jazz Ensemble**
This is a smaller, advanced-level class specifically devoted to playing jazz styles of music. Jazz Ensemble performs frequently throughout the year for community events, school events, concerts, and adjudicated jazz festivals. *Audition required: please email Michelle_Roberts@mcpsmd.org for more information.

**Concert Orchestra**
This entry-level class includes string players who already have some performing experience but still require more development before moving into an advanced ensemble. Students in the Concert Orchestra will have a structured and deliberate learning environment in which to progress/improve fundamental music skills. This course is recommended for most incoming freshman in orchestra. *Symphonic Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra are also offered to 9th grade students by audition only. Please email Michelle_Roberts@mcpsmd.org for more information.

**World Drumming (Beginning Band)**
Students learn beginning drumming techniques and styles from all over the world. Some of these include Jamaican Reggae, Hindustani, West African, Latin American, Indonesian, and Korean Percussion. Also includes local music styles such as rock, marching, jazz, go-go, etc. No experience is necessary.

**Music Technology**
Students learn the techniques of electronic sound productions and manipulation, and apply them to create their own compositions.

**Music Theory and Composition AP**
Students with strong interest and preparation in music study to meet the requirements of the College Board for AP in Music Theory. Practice in sight-singing, dictation, composition, and improvisation is complemented by listening and score analysis. Students study in detail the techniques used to compose music, including electronic media.

**Theater 1**
This course is the prerequisite for all other high school theatre courses. Students gain an understanding of the entire process through which human behavior is translated into a written drama, produced, as a play, and presented to an audience. The study of theatre aesthetics, history, and criticism is balanced with workshop training in acting and basic theatre production skills.
**Physical Education Electives**

**Foundations of Sports and Fitness**
This course includes opportunities for a varied selection of individual, dual, team, dance, and personal development activities. Students are guided in identifying and improving their fitness levels through the development and use of personalized fitness plans. Recommended for students for whom basic skills and experiences are appropriate. It is recommended that ninth graders be enrolled in General Physical Education 1 as an introduction to the high school physical education curriculum.

**Specialty PE (Weight Training, Basketball, Dance, Net Sports, Yoga, Soccer)**
These courses include instruction in one or two selected activities during a semester. Improving individual fitness levels is also emphasized in these courses. Skill work progresses from beginning-through intermediate-to advanced-level skills, but the emphasis is on intermediate-and advanced-level skills. For Specialty PE students can choose from, Weight Training, Basketball, Dance, Net Sports, or Soccer.

**Technology Education Electives**

**Foundations of Technology**
Students will explore and develop a deep understanding of the characteristics and scope of technology and the influence on history, along with the relationships and connections between technology and other fields of study. Students will develop skills by using the design process to solve technological problems. Students will develop a positive attitude about safety and skills through research, problem solving, testing, and working collaboratively.

**AP Computer Science Principles**
This course advances student understanding of the central ideas of computer science. Students explore technology as a means for solving computational problems, examining computer science’s relevance to an impact on the world today. It is recommended that students have taken or are concurrently enrolled in a Geometry class.

**Other Electives**

**Computer Programming 1**
This course introduces the basic principles of structured programming, within the context of an object-oriented language. Topics covered include fundamentals of the C++ programming language, simple and structured data types, control statements, functions, arrays, and classes. Emphasis is placed on developing effective problem-solving techniques through individual and team projects. *This course does not apply to the technology education graduation requirement.*

**TV Production**
This course introduces the fundamentals of television. Activities are centered on classroom work. The course offers a combination of theory and practical experiences. Activities in TV2 include the exploration of major issues affecting television broadcasting, programming, and scheduling. Advanced writing and production techniques for a variety of formats are covered. *This course does not apply to the fine arts graduation requirement.*