



## **ESEA ANNUAL NEWSLETTER**

### **DR. MELINDA BROWNE** **HEAD OF SCHOOL**

At MEVA, we demonstrate our commitment to parent/Learning Coach participation by hosting dozens of team meetings each week to review students' academic progress and to make programming adjustments as needed. We send weekly messages that keep all our families informed about their responsibilities within the MEVA community. Annually, we provide a meeting to outline MEVA's ESEA/Title I schoolwide student supports, such as Middle School Study Hub and High School Help Desk, and to answer any questions about how to access these resources and more.

Annual Meeting – We encourage parents/Learning Coaches to attend our scheduled annual meeting on October 19th, 4:00 pm, via Zoom (link to be published), which will present information about MEVA's Title I program and discuss our Parent Involvement and School-Parent Compact. The meeting will be recorded, and the recording link and materials will be distributed.

Parent Involvement and School-Parent Compact – Parents/Learning Coaches, MEVA staff, and students share the responsibility for student academic achievement. MEVA's ESEA/Title I policies are posted on our website [here](#).

Parent/Learning Coach Surveys – Via multiple surveys, throughout the school year, we collect and utilize feedback from parents/Learning Coaches to improve our programming and to inform our annual ESEA/Title IA

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#### **SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

- October 6: School Holiday
- October 9: Indigenous Peoples' Day
- November 11: Veterans' Day  
*Observed November 10*
- November 22-24: Thanksgiving Vacation
- December 21 - January 1: Winter Break
- January 15: Martin Luther King Day



#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- Semester 1: August 28, 2023 - January 11, 2024
- October 2-27 In-Person MEAs
- October 19, 4pm: Annual Information Meeting ESEA

## STUDENT HELP

HS HelpDesk and MS Study Hub provides you with a direct line to your teachers across all subjects. They are readily available to assist you with questions, homework, concepts, and concerns.

HS HelpDesk meets  
everyday  
10:30am-11:20am  
2:00pm-2:50pm

MS Study Hub meets  
Tuesdays - Fridays  
10:30am-11:20am  
2:00pm-2:50pm

For more information  
please check the Students  
Corner in Brightspace.

HS HelpDesk  
[Ms. Hart](#)

MS Study Hub  
[Mr. Sherwood](#)



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comprehensive needs assessment and grant application. Surveys include the Students First Check In and the Panorama School Climate Survey.

ESSA Dashboard – MEVA’s ESEA school performance results for the prior year are linked to our website [here](#).

MEVA Parent/Legal Guardian Handbook – MEVA consolidates information about our school and ESEA/Title I programming within our handbook [here](#).

Annual Parent Notice/Right to Request Teacher Qualifications – The annual letter (September 18, 2023) is posted [here](#).

Progress Reports and State Testing Results – MEVA mails students’ progress reports at the end of the semesters, as well as the applicable NWEA and state testing results. Assistance with technology and /or navigating MEVA’s systems is available by emailing [Tech](#).

MEVA’s Curriculum [here](#). We are here to help!

## ESEA VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE



Join us by Zoom on Thursday, October 19 at 4:00pm for the Open House/ESEA Informational Annual Meeting. All MEVA students are eligible for Schoolwide ESEA (Title 1A) supports and interventions. We will be going over what MEVA has available for the students including MS small group meetings, the HS HelpDesk, MS Study Hub, team meetings, external credit opportunities, and self-paced classes. Keep an eye out for the Zoom link which we will send out closer to October 19th.

## IN-PERSON MEA TESTING

The MEAs for Math and Reading, Fall in person state testing for 7th, 8th and 10th grade begins October 2nd. Site assignments have been sent out to everyone from MEVA Testing. If you did not receive it, please reach out to [Ms. Emery](#). The assessment will allow us to measure student's progress towards grade-level proficiency.



## FALL VIRTUAL NWEA UPDATE

Thank you to all students who completed their virtual NWEA testing during September! This data is incredibly important as we plan individualized instruction for each student. Your hard work is appreciated!

## G&T ARTISTS

Calling all Students! We are actively looking for those that are interested and committed to furthering their skills in Art! Students who are committed to learning and exploring art in depth are welcome to apply for the Gifted and Talented program, aka GT Art. We will be meeting each Wednesday at 2pm. Please email [Ms. Uth](#) and [Ms. Samson](#) if interested.



## MEVA CLUBS UPDATE

If you are interested in joining a MEVA Club this year, please choose up to 3 selections from the list at this [link](#). If a club you are interested in is not listed, it is because we do not have a teacher moderator for it yet. We will add to this list as we find more moderators. Remember, you need to be signed into your school Google account to be able to access the form.

## MAINE APP CHALLENGE!

The Maine App Challenge is designed by Tyler Technologies to provide Maine eighth graders and high school students the experience of designing, developing, and demonstrating a mobile app with a chance to win one of three scholarships. Tyler Technologies will come to MEVA and explain the process to everyone who is interested. For more information, please check out this [flyer](#). Take the [survey](#) to let us know if you are interested by Friday, October 6th.



## FAFSA

Seniors and any juniors graduating early should complete the FAFSA to be considered for financial aid at any post-secondary institution. This is required for free community college as well. The 2024-25 FAFSA will be released in December. You can be ready by creating your Federal Student Aid Account as soon as possible as it is a process that takes some time. More information can be found [here](#).

## SENIORS AND EARLY GRADS

Seniors and Early Grads: Your Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Tyler, is scheduling meetings with all seniors and early grads to start planning for after high school. It does not matter where you are in the planning process - she is here to support you! Please email [Mrs. Tyler](#) with you and your learning coach's availability over the next couple of weeks. She looks forward to working with you!

## MEVA GOODREADS GROUP

Please join Dr. C and friends on [Goodreads](#). This is a website where you can track your reading and get ideas of what to read next. Challenge yourself to read a specific number of books this school year and remember many books can be found on SORA or at your local library. Reach out to [Dr. C](#) with any questions.

## ANIME WATCH PARTIES

Dr. C is running two anime watch parties on upcoming no school days in Zoom.

- Friday Oct. 6th at 10am - "Belle"
- Monday Oct. 9th at 10am - "Spirited Away"

There is the option to get high school elective credit through Dr. C's anime course for this or enrichment at the middle school level. Reach out to [Dr. C](#) with any questions.



## MEVA CONTACTS

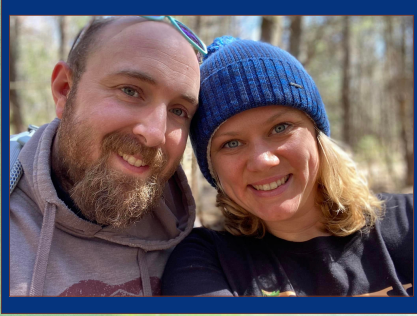
Use these emails for a quick response to your questions:

[Attendance@MaineVirtualAcademy.org](mailto:Attendance@MaineVirtualAcademy.org) \* [Guidance@MaineVirtualAcademy.org](mailto:Guidance@MaineVirtualAcademy.org)  
[Tech@MaineVirtualAcademy.org](mailto:Tech@MaineVirtualAcademy.org)

To submit your pet photos, shoutouts and newsletter ideas for the newsletter, please email [Mrs. Carter](#).



## TEACHER FEATURE



Hello everyone! My name is Vanessa Richardson and I teach high school social studies. Specifically, I teach Psychology, Finance and US History. This is my sixth year at MEVA and I really love it. History is something I've always been interested in learning about, and learning from. If I could meet any three people in history, I think I would choose Harriet Tubman, Heller Keller, and Abigail Adams. The viewpoint of history from a woman's

perspective is often missing in our history accounts.

One of the reasons I became a teacher was to have the extra time off to travel. I've been to six countries outside of the US and hope to see more. I am also married to another MEVA teacher - Mr. Coady Richardson in the Science Department - and together we have an English Sheepdog named Handsome and we are currently expecting our first child in December - a girl!



## STUDENT FEATURE



Hi, my name is Madalynn Bing, I am a Junior and I have been at MEVA for a few years. I really enjoy writing and studying a good amount so I was glad to discover that MEVA actually had more external learning opportunities. My hobbies mostly consist of writing and drawing so whenever I have the chance I'm doing one or the other. Being at MEVA has given me more time to work on such things.

My advice for attending MEVA would be to go for any opportunities you may have available - Early Graduation, College Courses, etc. If you think you can do it - then go for it. (You won't know until you try - will you?) I myself am currently in an Early College English class because I want a future in writing stories and/or novels and this is one of the steps in that direction. The class isn't very overwhelming, I actually find it very interesting. Just make sure to ask for help and take decent-sized breaks so you don't burn out.





## HANDSOME



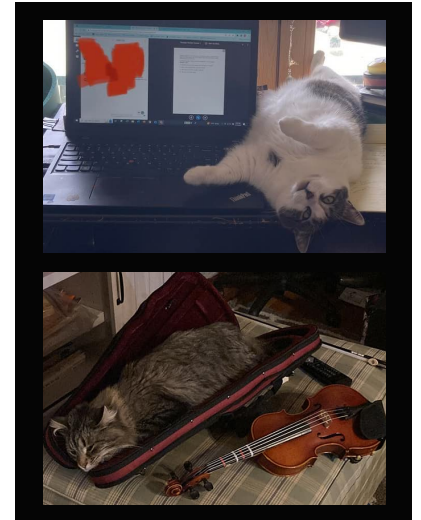
The Richardson's English Sheepdog.

## MADALYNN BING'S KITTIES



Peaches, Rocket, Nova, Smokey, Lilly and Manny

## MS. SROKA'S KITTIES



Rosie and Otto

## MISS LADY



Alexis Pinkham with her service dog Miss Lady watching the first day of school.

## MITRA



Kat Gallagher's kitty.

## SNICKERS



Angie Harvey's kitty.

