

SY23-24
Issue 7
February 1, 2024



MAINE

VIRTUAL ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

DR. MELINDA BROWNE

HEAD OF SCHOOL

The highlight of our dedicated work at MEVA is getting to know our students and their parents/Learning Coaches. We look forward to our interactions via telecommunication venues, such as Bongo and Zoom. We understand that listening to our stakeholders' feedback is the best way to customize our programming to meet students' needs.

Our office team is reaching out daily, throughout the school day to encourage students' attendance at live connect sessions. We are hearing from parents/Learning Coaches that this service is helpful and supports students' academic progress -- your involvement is critical to the mission and vision of our school. We simply could not do what we do academically without your participation!

Speaking of academics, we are immensely proud of our students' fall to winter growth presented on our recent, virtual, NWEA MAP Growth administration. We are sharing individual results in conjunction with semester-1 progress reports. Please do not hesitate to request a team meeting if you have any questions or concerns. We are here to help!

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

- February 16-23:
Winter break
- Vacation day: March
15th



IMPORTANT DATES

- Semester 2: January
12th - June 14th
- Re-Registration portal
opens February 26

MEVA MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT

Maine Virtual Academy's (MEVA) mission is to develop each student's full potential with learner-centered instruction, research-based curriculum and educational tools and resources to provide a high quality learning experience for grade 7-12 students who are in need of alternative educational options. MEVA will develop an Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) with specific learning goals to meet each student's needs.

MEVA's rigorous curriculum is aligned to the eight Maine content areas, the Maine Learning Results, the Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards. MEVA will demand the highest level of accountability from our Maine-certified teachers, our educational management system and our nationally recognized provider of educational services. The MEVA Board will contract with Stride K12 for educational products and selected support services.

RE-REGISTRATION

Re-Registration is opening soon for the 2024-2025 School Year! MEVA's annual Re-Registration period starts on February 26th. Reminder – all current MEVA students must be re-registered each year in order to keep your place. Students are not automatically re-enrolled unless you complete the "Commitment to Enroll Form".

Keep a look out for school communications that will be sent to you soon. These communications will provide you with details on Portal open dates, Open House, Re-Registration Help Sessions, Course Information and Step-by-Step info on how to complete your Re-Registration for fall. Seats will only be open to returning families for a short period of time, before seats are open to the public. We look forward to having you back again next school year!

RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

MEVA has partnered with The Cook Center for Human Connection and Parentguidance.org to provide you free individualized "coaching/counseling" services for you and your family this school year. Please visit <https://parentguidance.org/> to explore the resources available to you.

Also, the Cook Center will be featuring a free mental health workshop every month, that you are welcome to attend. The school newsletter will announce the topic being featured each month along with the links and times these live sessions will be held.

Mental Health Workshop Features:

1. **February 5th** - "School Avoidance" - 2/5/24 - 6:30 pm, the Cook Center will discuss strategies to help parents reduce school avoidance. To register, please click this [link](#)
2. **March 4th** - "Supporting your Child After Trauma" - 3/4/24 - 6:30pm, the Cook Center will discuss how to best support your child after trauma. To register, please click this [link](#)



CLUBS AT MEVA!

Did you know MEVA has a whole host of different clubs? These can greatly increase your MEVA experience and Hgreat ways to socialize!

To sign up email [Mr. Fournier](mailto:Mr.Fournier)! Here is the weekly club schedule:

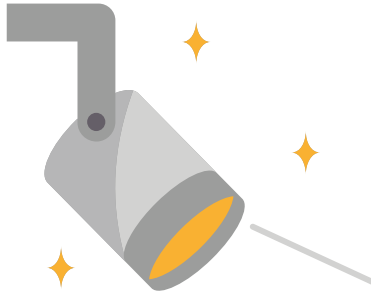
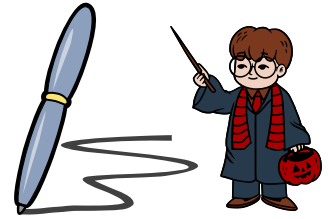
Monday - no clubs due to faculty meeting

Tuesday - Anime / Chess (ASL beginning on 1/30/2024!!!)

Wednesday - no clubs (faculty department meetings)

Thursday - Gaming / Prodigy / Grad Activities @ 2:00 HelpDesk

Friday - Creative Writing & Harry Potter



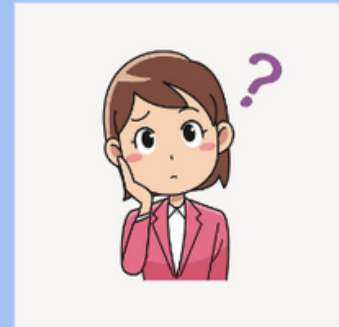
CLUB OF THE MONTH SPOTLIGHT

Join the ASL Club!

Discussion and questions:

- ASL
- Deaf Culture
- Current events happening
- Deaf people
- ASL activities and games!
- Learn how to communicate with Deaf people

Web Camera is encouraged but not required. This enables Mrs. Pierce to see you signing. You can communicate via chat box, or voice as well. The club will be led by Carrie Pierce, Deaf instructor and graduate of Gallaudet University. Students may lead sessions as well!!!



STUDENT HELP

HS HelpDesk and MS StudyHub 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 from 10:30am-11:20am and 2:00pm-2:50pm

MS StudyHub meets Tuesdays - Fridays from 10:30am-11:20am and everyday 2:00pm-2:50pm

For more information please check the Students Corner in Brightspace or contact:

HS HelpDesk - [Ms. Hart](#)

MS StudyHub - [Mr. Sherwood](#)



MEVA CONTACTS

Use these emails for a quick response to your questions:

- [Attendance](#)
- [Guidance](#)
- [Tech](#)

To submit your pet photos, shout-outs and newsletter ideas for the newsletter, please email the [Newsletter](#).

2024 MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP ONLINE APPLICATION

The 2024 Mitchell Scholarship online application is now open until April 1!

News for the 2024 Mitchell Scholarship application season!

In addition to our longstanding commitment of awarding at least one \$10,000 scholarship annually to a graduating student from each of the 134 public high schools in Maine, we are excited to share that we will award 40 additional scholarships across the state in 2024, bringing our annual total to \$1.74M in support for the class of 2024 Mitchell Scholars.

We hope to have at least five applicants from each school, and we rely on your support to promote the scholarship to college-bound students who would most benefit from our scholarship and programs. At times, we hear that some students do not apply because they believe that only students at the top of the class will be selected—but that is not the case! The selection committee considers all available information in evaluating candidates and aims to choose the student for whom our financial and programmatic support would make the biggest impact.

Additional information about our scholarship and programs can be found on the [Mitchell Institute website](#). To learn more about our work and Mitchell Scholar recipients, we invite you to subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter: [The Mitchell Institute Update](#).

SENIORS AND EARLY GRADS

- Our graduation ceremony will be a Live Zoom ceremony held at 2 p.m. on June 7th.
- Please stay tuned for emails with more information about the day.
- To purchase a matching gown [click here](#). We recommend the matte gown in emerald green.
- To order a class ring from Jostens, [click here!](#) You will need to set up an account.
- The yearbook will be available for sale in the spring, and turned into a video for our graduation ceremony!
- Create an Individual Yearbook Page: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FSS5Xo6I7M8>
- 2024 Yearbook Template: <https://www.canva.com/design/DAFyeonxJDk/Hv2ppeFxa9YvdTMXceixkw/edit>
- If you would like help creating your yearbook page, please email dcastro@mainevirtualacademy.org with the following information:
 - First and Last Name, Year you joined MEVA, Home Town, Hobbies, Favorite Subject, Plans After High School, and Favorite Quote.
- **ALL SUBMISSIONS to the YEARBOOK are DUE by March 1st!**
- Purchase MEVA GRAD. SWAG Hoodies and T-Shirts, [HERE!](#) Orders ship directly to your home. This is a fundraiser to earn money for a class gift for the graduates to be included with their graduation mailing in mid-May, such as a key chain and stickers with the student designed mascot.

MEVA HONOR ROLL: SEMESTER 1

Highest Honors				Honors
L.Adamo	M.Frost	N.Rackliffe	A.Brewer	F.Bard
B.Al-Qudah	D.Gallagher Jr	I.Radford	M.Campbell	P.Besterfeldt
L.Bartman	M.Gallant	B.Rea	L.Carter	E.Cook
A.Bickford	A.Gilley	D.Reaves	D.Chaput	C.Cook
J.Bobbin	I.Gomez	D.Rice	D.Colbath	E.Drayton
Z.Bowden	V.Gomez	K.Rich	D.Davidson	S.Erickson
B.Bragg	A.Grahn	L.Robinson	A.Dusoe	D.Francis
B.Brillant	N.Green	O.Romanow	B.Edgerly	J.Gray
L.Buchanan	I.Hamilton	W.Roy	M.Gordon	N.Griggs
L.Buck	S.Hopkins	A.Savard	B.Hall	D.Guerrette
V.Casey	R.Hopkins	E.Seaberg	C.Hamilton	E.Gurney
J.Cooper	A.Keniston	E.Shankland	G.Jones	E.Haney
E.Cournane	R.Keniston	K.Shedd	J.Keniston	A.Hansen
S.Cournane	K.Keniston	I.Shedd	A.King	K.Hughes
E.Crafts	A.King	R.Silver	P.Kline	K.Jackson
A.Cullen	E.Knowlton IV	J.Smith	M.Knox	S.Keef
E.Cyr	B.Kusturin	N.Sparling	H.Kory	D.Keniston
V.Delgado	S.Lichti	K.Stalter	S.McNeish	A.Lapham
C.Devoe	A.Long	O.Tebbets	J.Merrill	A.Lebrasseur
K.Doane	N.Lupercio	C.Tomasco-	A.Miller	V.Long
J.Drayton	B.Mackie	Bertwell	A.Pinkham	A.Mains
K.Driscoll	L.Mantsch	N.Trask	S.Quick	T.McNeish
C.Drost	J.Mateo	C.Tuck	C.Rawls	I.Morales
E.Duhaime	C.Meninno	H.Valcourt	E.Rolfe	A.Nason
P.Dusoe	S.Mercogliano	C.Veilleux	M.Schriver	A.Novak
B.Dykstra	C.Nadeau	L.Ward	T.Seidell	K.Poisson
H.Fancher	E.Norbert	T.Watt	D.Shorey	M.Rushing
E.Flavin	N.Norcross	E.Williams	S.Sparling	J.Sapienza
G.Flohr	O.Noriega	S.Wyman	M.Sylvia	J.Skillin
C.Forlines	L.Noriega	I.Wynn	M.Tiner	J.Slocomb
M.Fortin	I.Ouellet	High Honors	E.Wasel	G.Snowdon Jr
E.Foss	N.Parker	G.Ashbaugh	S.Watt	D.Susinetti Jr.
K.Foster	R.Parker	S.Barclay	C.White	E.Sutherland
K.Frank	M.Phillips	J.Bartels	D.Woodbury	S.Vallance
	A.Phillips	B.Black	E.York	Q.Webb

TEACHER FEATURE

Julie King

RISE Program teacher



Working at MEVA:

This is my second year teaching at MEVA. I love teaching in the virtual setting, it allows me to really focus on building relationships, collaborating with others, and curriculum. MEVA has an amazing school culture and climate. My favorite part about working at MEVA is getting to know each student!



Fun Facts about me:

My Husband, Scott, and I have an amazing 10 year old daughter, Kiley. We also have two fur babies- Remy and Rosie! I like to go camping and boating, and being around family!

STUDENT FEATURE

Cindy Meninno

Class of 2024

Hi! My name is Cindy Meninno. I started at MEVA as a freshman. This year I am part of the 2024 graduating class!

What I like about MEVA is the support system. The teachers at MEVA really care to help you succeed.

In my spare time I enjoy my dogs Piper and Kota. I also enjoy our three cats, Archie, Mr. Kitty and Mousa.

Thank you to Mrs. King and Mrs. Clark for nominating me!

