WELCOME SPRING!

Welcome back after Spring Break! We hope it was a refreshing and renewing time. With the passing of Spring Break, the end of the year is just around the corner. It’s hard to believe we are just nine weeks away from graduation (June 7) and ten weeks away from the last day of school (June 14)!

This week is loaded with lots of exciting things as we charge forward. If you hadn’t heard, this week is Spirit Week. Today (Monday) was “Flower Power” here are the rest of the weeks’ spirit days:

- **TUESDAY (4/9): Tropical Day**
- **WEDNESDAY (4/10): Monochromatic Day**
- **THURSDAY (4/11): Babies (Grades 9/10) v. Senior Citizens (Grades 11/12)**
- **FRIDAY (4/12): April Showers (Blue) bring May Flowers (Gold)**

This Saturday, April 13 is the Spring Fling Dance from 8:00–10:00 PM. Tickets are only $5. Ticket sales available via the MHS Business Office.

This Saturday, April 13 is also the Lilac Festival Coronation. Representing Mead High School is Katelyn Wolf who has made it to Court! We are excited to support Katelyn and her work within the community. Interested in tickets? [CLICK HERE](#).

Join us on Friday, April 19 for the MHS Dance Team Spring Showcase following the 2024–25 tryouts! Estimated start time is 6:00 PM.

Congratulations to Mead Yearbook (Pantera), yet again, for sweeping the Herff Jones awards for another year. Yearbook staff won their fifth Pacemaker Award (third year in a row); were awarded second place for “Best in Show;” won the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA) Crown Award, and are ranked among the top one-percent for the third year in a row. Way to Go!!

Hoorah to our Winter Blue & Gold Recipients!
- Teryn Gardner (Basketball)
- Ellie Fuchs (Gymnastics)
- Gracie Martinsen (Gymnastics)
- Baylie Conner (Wrestling)
- Austin Frederick (Wrestling)

Enjoy this issue of Panther Nation (it’s short)!

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**NEED TO KNOW!**

**Office Hours**
7:00 AM - 3:30 PM
509.465.7000

**23/24 School Hours**
(High Schools)
**Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri**
8:00 AM - 2:35 PM

**Wednesdays**
8:40 AM - 2:35 PM
No late-start Wednesdays on 12 June 2024

**Spring Fling Dance**
13 April 2024
8:00-10:00 PM
Tickets: $5

**Spring Blood Drive**
Thursday, 18 April 2024
1:30 - 5:00 PM
Sign-ups available on our website and Mead Official

**MHS Dance Spring Showcase**
Friday, 19 April 2024
Approx. 6:00 PM

**State Testing: ELA**
6-10 May 2024
via English and Social Studies Classes
Alternate Bell Schedule

**AP Testing Begins**
Monday, 6 May 2024

**State Testing: Math/Science**
Monday, 20 May 2024
via Math and Science Classes.
No Alternate Bell Schedule

**Memorial Day Weekend**
Friday, 24 May 2024
Monday, 27 May 2024
NO SCHOOL
Graduation is just around the corner, as well as Senior Week! The “Seniors!” page on our website is updated and includes information about Graduation Speech Auditions (also included here) and the new Senior Sunset date.

**NEW! GRADUATION SPEECH AUDITIONS**

*Formal Announcement:* Monday, April 8, 2024 [sent to Seniors’ Mead email and posted on Class of 2024 Google Classroom].

*Speech & Video Due:* Monday, May 13, 2024 no later than 8:00 AM.

*Selected Speakers Notified:* By Friday, May 17, 2024.

**CLICK HERE** for all the information you need to plan, prepare, and submit your audition materials.

**SENIOR AWARDS NIGHT**

Wednesday, May 29, 2024 from 6:30-8:30 PM in the Mead Gym.

**PROM**

Saturday, June 1, 2024. 7:30-10:30 PM. Spokane Convention Center Rooftop.

**SENIOR FINALS**

Tuesday, June 4, 2024: Periods 4, 5, & 6.

Wednesday, June 5, 2024: Periods 1, 2, & 3.

**SENIOR CHECK OUT**

Wednesday June 5, 2024: 11:25 AM in the MHS Theatre.

**UPDATE!! SENIOR SUNSET BBQ**

Let’s end our reign together with fun, food, and games.

**New date:** Thursday, June 6, 2024 from 7:00 – 9:30 PM @ Union Stadium.

**ELEMENTARY GRAD WALKS**

TBA

**GRADUATION REHEARSAL #1 (Required)**

We will use this time to run through the program, make sure we get names correct, and practice entrances and exits. This first practice at MHS also allows families to have the morning and afternoon of graduation with their graduate!

Thursday, June 6, 2024 from 12:30-2:30 PM in the MHS Gym.

**GRADUATION CLASS OF 2024**

Gonzaga University, McCarthey Athletic Center.

Friday, June 7, 2024 at 8:00 PM.

**STATE TESTING 2024**

State testing (Smarter Balanced Assessment) begins in May. Grade 10 students and any students who have not completed or passed the test will test during the testing periods. **We will be on a block schedule during the Week of May 6-10 for the English Language Arts portion of the exam** (see below). There is no block schedule on Wednesday, May 8. Lunches are already based on Period 4, so students can easily follow that schedule. Period 3 lunches are based on our Late Start schedule. This list will be shared as we draw closer to testing week so students know which schedule to follow.

The Math and Science portions of state testing will begin on Monday, May 20 during math and science classes. **There is no modified schedule for the Math and Science state tests.**

All Washington State graduates are required to complete and/or pass a [Graduation Pathway Option](#). State testing is the most common and completed/passed option. Click the hyperlink above to view all of the Graduation Pathway Options.

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**SPRING BLOOD DRIVE**

Thursday, April 18, 1:30-5:00 PM. Sign-ups will be posted on our website and via Mead Official (Instagram). If we fill up the spots, MHS receives fundraising money!
We Heard You!

We listened to many families and met with many students, including our Student Council. The restrooms have been an issue for quite awhile. We totally get it.

And with your help and suggestions, we took action.

Starting today, Mead now has open, stadium-style restroom accesses. This format helps provide a safe environment for everyone using the restrooms. No need to card access doors anymore (or have the system crash and the card readers not work). No need to prop the doors only to have the door wedges stolen. No more doors being barricaded from the inside. No more card reader passes never returned to the teacher. MHS students were accustomed to stadium-style restrooms in their middle schools at Northwood, Highland, and Mountainside.

Students still need a hall pass during class time (a long-standing procedure). Panthers can walk in, quickly use the space appropriately, and head right on back to class.

Coming soon, we will be posting the Student Council-produced easy and anonymous reporting system outside each restroom and around the school. Any issues will now be easily identifiable and addressed in a quick and safe manner! We appreciate our Panthers supporting safe restroom experiences for all users.

AP EXAMS STILL ON SALE

AP Exams are 6 May - 15 May 2024

- Students interested in taking an AP Exam must purchase the exam prior to the testing weeks.
- Sales run 1 February - 30 April 2024 in the MHS Business Office.
- AP Exams are $98.00. Payment plans available. Call 509.465.7031, stop by the MHS Business Office, or pay online.
- Fee waivers available: Complete the MSD Free/Reduced paperwork first, then have your student pick-up a state fee waiver form from Ms. Chandler in Room S1. Form due to Ms. Chandler no later than 2:40 PM on Friday, 26 April.
- IMPORTANT! There is a cancellation/ unused exam fee of $40. Therefore, if a student commits to taking an AP exam and later decides to cancel or no-shows on test day, a $40 fee will be accessed on the student's Mead High School account.

Join us for a Froyo Fundraiser!
Stop by between 4-9 pm on May 3rd. Mention you're with Mead High School and Froyo will donate 20% of sales to Mead's Senior All-nighter!