



How to Complete Your Upper School Digital Portfolio

Guidelines, Recommendations, and What to Expect

Morristown Beard School students discover and develop their individual pathways to success, because success does not look the same for every student. In our office, the Admission team wants to make sure that our application process reflects the many types of students who thrive at MBS. The goal of the digital portfolio is to get to know our applicants beyond the more formal, traditional application.

The digital portfolio is a weighted component of your student's application and is an exciting and powerful opportunity for applicants to introduce themselves to the entire Admission Committee. Applicants should focus on creativity over technical expertise, put in their best effort, and follow the guidelines provided below while having fun with the process.

Materials Needed:

- Video Recording Device (phone, tablet, camcorder, etc.)

MBS Requirements:

- Videos #1 and #2 are required. Video #3 is optional.
- Each video should be between **60 and 90 seconds long** and cannot exceed 100MB in file size.
 - We recommend that you set your video to record in 480p to ensure that you will not exceed the upload limit
 - If the videos are too "large" to be uploaded, we recommend that you use the Handbrake software to help compress the videos. Handbrake is open source and free but does require a desktop or laptop computer: <https://handbrake.fr/>

MBS Recommendations and Advice:

- We encourage students to be creative and to use this as a medium to express themselves and their interests. Students have done slideshows, and video montages, or filmed themselves speaking in their rooms.
 - Props, guest stars, and alternate locations are welcome!
- Some digital portfolios are highly edited, with jump cuts and captions, and some are more simply executed. However, unless a student has indicated a passion for video editing or creation, the admission committee does not judge a student's videos on the production value.
- Some students may find a written script helpful. We do encourage students to prepare and rehearse for their videos.
- Parents, guardians, siblings, and friends are allowed to help film, though we do want the video to reflect your student's thoughts and skills.

Prompts:

Video 1 - The Personal Presentation (required)

Introduce yourself and speak about which of the MBS core values is most important to you.

Video 2 - The Student Spotlight (required)

Use this video to be as creative as you like and highlight what you are passionate about. You can continue to speak to your audience about your passions or include something else such as a slideshow, video footage, and/or any creative content that you would like to showcase.

Video 3 - The Applicant Answer (optional)

Choose **one** of the following questions to answer.

1. Describe a time when you learned a valuable lesson from a friend and why it had an impact on you.
2. Describe a time when doing the right thing was difficult for you and share the outcome.
3. Describe a time when you had to apologize for something and what you learned from the experience.

As you are completing the digital portfolio, we're happy to answer any questions you have. If you are having trouble uploading the videos, please let us know and we are happy to help.