

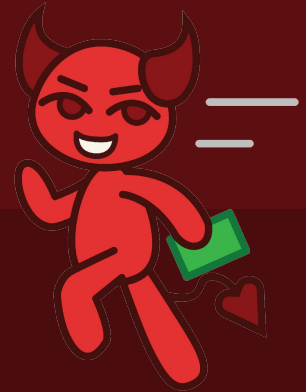
MT. DIABLO HIGH SCHOOL



9th Grade Family Orientation

*Rules, resources, credits, and attendance:
what your family needs for a strong start.*

Welcome, Incoming Class of 2030 families!



TODAY'S AGENDA

What We'll Cover

- 1 Why Freshman Year Matters**
Credits and transcripts start now
- 2 Attendance Matters**
Be here, be ready, belong
- 3 School Rules**
School expectations and discipline
- 4 Student Supports**
Counseling, tutoring, and more
- 5 Staying Connected**
Portal access, helpful links, getting involved



Leave with a clear picture of freshman year and know who to contact with questions.

THE TRANSITION

Welcome to Mt. Diablo High School!



MDHS MISSION

**WE SUPPORT ALL OUR STUDENTS IN BUILDING
THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO SUCCEED IN
COLLEGE, CAREER, AND CIVIC LIFE.**

GO RED DEVILS!

THE TRANSITION

Introducing the Office Team

Marie Mendoza Sapigao - *Office Manager*

mendozasapigaom@mdusd.org

(925) 682-4030 ex: 3401

Katherine Day - *Attendance Secretary*

dayk@mdusd.org

(925) 682-4030 ex: 3445

Yarel Ruiz Lopez - *Registrar*

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(925) 682-4030 ex: 3416

Kellie Morales - *Vice Principals' Secretary*

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(925) 682-4030 ex: 3418

Cyndie Gega - *Treasurer*

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(925) 682-4030 ex: 3415

Hazel Torres - *Secretary*

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Carla Solari - *Parent Liaison*

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(925) 682-4030 ex: 3407

Coach Fetuao Mua - *Parent Liaison & Athletic Director*

muaf@mdusd.org

(925) 682-4030 ex: 87409

Alejandra Montenegro - *Student Resource Technician*

montenegroa@mdusd.org

(925) 682-4030 ex: 3409

Arlene del Bene - *Child Welfare and Attendance Liaison*

delbenea@mdusd.org

(925) 685-1011 ex: 62093



THE TRANSITION

Introducing the Administrative Team



Dr. Markell McCain - *Principal*
mccainm@mdusd.org
(925) 682-4030 ex: 3400

Josie Kirkland - *Vice Principal*
kirklandj@mdusd.org
(925) 682-4030 ex: 3459

Liz Mangelsdorf - *Vice Principal*
mangelsdorfe@mdusd.org
(925) 682-4030 ex: 3403

Nadia Visaya - *Vice Principal*
visayan@mdusd.org
(925) 682-4030 ex: 3404

Dr. Liza Estupin - *MLL Program Administrator*
mendozaestupinl@mdusd.org
(925) 682-4030 ex: 3402

Chris Carlay - *Wellness Administrator*
carlayc@mdusd.org
(925) 682-4030 ex: 3477

Carrie Buchek - *BASES Program Specialist*
buchekc@mdusd.org
(925) 682-4030 ex: 3480

THE TRANSITION

Introducing the Counseling Team

Yaretzie Amaya - Counselor Q-Z
amayay@mdusd.org
(925) 682-4030 ex: 3414

Leidi Arias - Counselor H-I-J & MLL
ariasl@mdusd.org
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Mala Datta - Counselor A-F
dattam@mdusd.org
(925) 682-4030 ex: 3456

Brian Rodda - Counselor J-P
roddab@mdusd.org
(925) 682-4030 ex: 3413



Erika Ramos - College & Career Advisor
ramosem@mdusd.org
(925) 682-4030 ex: 3424

THE TRANSITION

Freshman Year Counts

Every grade earned this year appears on the transcript that colleges and employers will look at later.

There is no practice year! Success starts here and now!

- GPA calculations for A-G eligibility and NCAA eligibility begin with 9th grade coursework.
- Habits built in the first semester:
 - Attendance
 - Communication
 - Organization



CREDITS

MDUSD Graduation Requirements

English Language Arts

4 years = 40 credits

Fine Arts / CTE / Language

2 years = 20 credits

Mathematics

3 years = 30 credits

Physical Education

2 years = 20 credits

Science

2 years = 20 credits

Electives

6 classes = 60 credits

Social Studies

3 years = 30 credits

TOTAL

= 220 credits



CREDITS

UC/ Cal State Admissions Requirements

English Language Arts

4 years with C or better

World Language

2 years with C or better
(same language)

Mathematics

3 years with C or better
(4 years recommended)

Fine Art

1 year with C or better

Lab Science (Physical + Life)

2 years with C or better
(3 years recommended)

Electives

1 year with C or better

Social Studies

2 years with C or better

TOTAL

15+ a-g courses



CREDITS

Freshman Courses

All Freshmen take:

English I

Algebra I or Geometry

The Living Earth

Physical Education 9

... plus two Elective courses:

Art I

Drama I

JROTC

Multimedia I

Culinary Arts

Medical Science

Academic Success

Engineering Essentials

Spanish

Music

Construction

Transportation

ELD

... and more!

TOTAL

6 Classes = 60 Credits

*Earn all
your credits
for a great
start!*



ATTENDANCE

Be here. Be ready. Belong.

Regular attendance helps students:

- Learn important academic skills and stay on track with assignments.
- Build positive friendships and relationships.
- Develop responsibility and good habits.
- Prepare for graduation, college, and future careers.



ATTENDANCE

Common Reasons for Missing School

- Illness
- Transportation challenges
- Bullying
- Anxiety or stress
- Family emergencies
- Lack of motivation

We understand that personal matters come up. It is important that you communicate your student's attendance to us as soon as possible so we can provide support!

ATTENDANCE

Communication is key!

- Parents or guardians have 72 hours or three days to call, text, email, or ParentSquare.
- Note that even if an absence is excused, the absence still remains.
- Have student bring doctor or dentist note to clear absence next day or send email to school.
- Schedule medical appointments after school if possible.



ATTENDANCE

What is truancy?

- 3+ missed classes and/or missing more than 30 minutes of a class is considered truant (X code in Aeries).
 - Skipping school without valid excuse or permission, or leaving early or late
 - Absent without permission
 - School was not notified by parent/guardian of absence.
- Our goal is to find out why your student is missing school.
- After 3, 6, 9 and 12 truant periods/classes, meetings are held with the student, their parents, and administrators.

ATTENDANCE

Chronic absences/truancies

- All absences, including both excused and unexcused, cannot exceed 10% of school year – no more than 18 days total.
- After 18 days, your student is “Chronically Absent”.
- If permission to leave is not requested, an absence may count as a truancy and may require student and guardian to appear before district attorney or court.
- Next steps: Student attendance review team (SART), Student attendance review board (SARB), Truancy Court at Walnut Creek Superior Court.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance Supports We Can Provide

- Students with ongoing illness:
 - School nurse and student's doctor can communicate to receive 504 plan and/or other accommodations.
- Students who need academic support:
 - After school tutoring, flex period supports, online credit recovery.
- Students who need social/emotional support:
 - DCC, counselors, short term independent study, Home and Hospital program.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance Policy Summary

- Report an absence** Parents notify the attendance office within 72 hours; verification is required to clear an absence.
- Arrive on Time** Tardies are recorded by period. Plan to arrive between 8:00 and 8:15– first period counts, too!
- Truancy thresholds** State-defined absence thresholds trigger a formal notification and a SART referral.
- Attendance and eligibility** Regular attendance is required to remain eligible for athletics and extracurricular participation.

ATTENDANCE

Be here. Be ready. Belong.

- We are a team!
- Thank you for your time and partnership.
- For additional support, please contact the Attendance Office.
- Questions?

MT. DIABLO HIGH SCHOOL



BE HERE - BE READY - BELONG



ATTENDANCE SECRETARY:
KATHERINE DAY
MDHSATTENDANCE@MDUSD.ORG
(925) 682-4030 EX: 3445

PARENT LIAISON (SPANISH):
CARLA SOLARI
SOLARIC@MDUSD.ORG
(925) 682-4030 EX: 3407

MT. DIABLO HIGH SCHOOL
(925) 682-4030

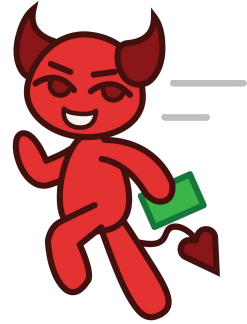
SCHOOL BUS CONTACT
(925) 825-7440

YOU MUST CONTACT THE SCHOOL WITHIN 3 DAYS OF ABSENCE!

SCHOOL RULES

MDHS Restroom Policy

Our goal is to maximize effective use of instructional minutes by minimizing time spent outside of the learning environment.



**Twelve passes total
per student per
quarter**

**No passes during
first and last ten
minutes of class**

**Ask classroom
teacher for
permission, get
pass signed/dated**

**Return to class
within ten minutes**

**Unused passes can
be entered in a
prize drawing
every quarter**

**“No Fly” List:
students abusing
system will require
an escort**

SCHOOL RULES

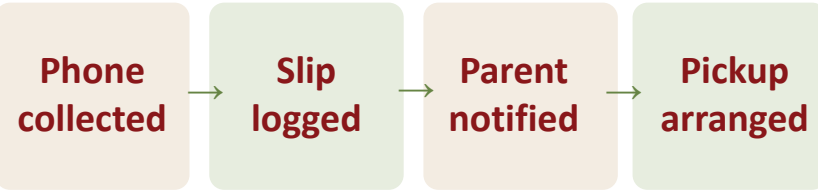
MDHS is a Phone-Free Campus!

- Phones, smart watches, earbuds, and similar devices must be secured in a Yondr pouch all day.
- If a student leaves their phone at home, they can receive a “no phone” slip from the office.
- If a student does not bring a Yondr pouch, they can have the office hold their phone for the day.
- Any device seen or heard during the school day is collected and logged. Parents are notified and can pick up their students’ confiscated device at the end of the day.
- Need to contact your child? Just call the office and we will get a message to them.

Click here to check out the student handbook!



What happens with a violation



SCHOOL RULES

MDHS Dress Code

- Clothing and personal items should be free of:
 - offensive, profane, or sexually suggestive language/images;
 - references to drugs, alcohol, or tobacco;
 - inappropriate slurs or prejudice related to disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation.
- Any article known to be gang-related is unacceptable.
- Shoes / footwear must be worn at all times.
- Clothes shall conceal undergarments for all students at all times.
- Opaque clothing must cover the torso from the armpit to the waist, and cover from the waist to the thigh.
- Clothing that presents a health or safety hazard is prohibited.
- Religious coverings are allowed at all times.

Click here to check out the student handbook!



Other Schoolwide Expectations

Click here to check out the student handbook!



Be Safe

Leave contraband at home. Help keep the campus clean and safe. Use technology responsibly. MDHS is a closed campus.

Be Ready

Be in class and be on time. Free breakfast/brunch and lunch for all students. No DoorDash, Uber Eats, etc.

Be Kind

Fighting, threats, and bullying are not ok! Be respectful of others in class and around campus.

Belong

Participate in clubs, athletics, school activities, and learning experiences. Make friends and support one another.

... Be a Red Devil!

RESOURCES

Support Systems on Campus

Counseling

Every student has an assigned counselor for academic planning and personal support.

CCC

The College and Career Center helps students prepare for life after high school.

Link Crew

Older mentor students help freshmen navigate the first year of high school.

Flex Time

Class period for targeted intervention and enrichment activities.

Diablo Community Center (DCC)

Our Wellness Center provides counseling access and therapeutic supports by connecting students to licensed mental health providers.

Tutoring & Intervention

After school tutoring and study hall, plus targeted intervention for students who fall behind.

CARES

After School programming provides tutoring, drivers' ed, clubs, and many more activities.

Restorative Justice Room

Alternative classroom model offering extra guidance, support, mediation, and redirection when students need it.

Portal Access & Communication

Parent Portal (Aeries)

- Use Aeries HomeLink to check on your students' grades, attendance, classes, and academic progress.
- The front office can help with login issues.



Everyday Communication

- Mass notifications and reminders are sent by app, email, and text through Parent Square.
- Teacher contact info is in Aeries and on the school website.
- Please contact the office staff and administrators for any questions.



COMMUNITY

Get Involved

The Parent Advisory Committee (PAC), the English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC), and the School Site Council (SSC) help shape school priorities and provide important input.

- Monthly meetings, open to every family, in person and by video.
- No experience needed. Translation is available on request.
- Sign-up for more information today, or contact the front office anytime.



COMMUNITY

For More Information

- Our office is open 7:30am - 4:30pm.
- Check in at the front office.
- Here are some useful links:
 - [MDHS School Website](#)
 - [MDHS Campus Map](#)
 - [School Year Calendar](#)
 - [MDHS School Events Calendar](#)
 - [MDHS Student Handbook](#)



Mt. Diablo Bell Schedule

	MON, TUE, THU, FRI	WED
1st	8:30-9:23	8:30-9:20
2nd	9:28-10:21	9:25-10:15
Brunch	10:21-10:31	10:15-10:25
Flex	10:36-11:06	----
3rd	11:11-12:04	10:30-11:20
4th	12:09-1:02	11:25-12:15
Lunch	1:02-1:37	12:15-12:50
5th	1:42-2:35	12:55-1:45
6th	2:40-3:33	1:50-2:40

CALENDAR

Key Dates to Know

Aug 3

Schedules are
released on
HomeLink

Aug 6

First Day of
School!

Aug 11

School
Picture Day

Aug 27

Back to
School Night

Sept 2

1st Quarter
Progress
Reports

Oct 2

End of 1st
Quarter

Oct 5 - 9

Fall Break -
No School

Nov 13

2nd Quarter
Progress
Reports

Dec 16-18

Semester 1
Final Exams

Dec 21-Jan 4

Winter Break -
No School

Questions?

We're here all year, not just today!

Hazel Torres - *Secretary*
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(925) 682-4030 ex: 3408

Carla Solari - *Parent Liaison*
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Katherine Day - *Attendance Secretary*
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