VISTA MURRIETA

AUGUST 14, 2026 | ISSUE1

Principal Mrs. Celeste Scallion

28251 Clinton Keith Road, Murrieta, CA 92563

PONY EXPRESS

Dear Bronco Families,

What a great first week at Vista Murrieta High School!

As we close out our first week of the 2026–2027 school year, I am incredibly proud of the way our students, both new and returning, have shown up at The Ranch. Broncos are arriving to class on time and ready to learn. They are thoughtful, kind, considerate, asking questions, engaging in their experience, and taking responsibility for the legacy they will leave as Broncos.

That does not happen by accident. It is built upon the strong foundation you provide at home, and I want to thank our families for the support, encouragement, and expectations you provide each day. Strong schools are built through strong partnerships, and we are excited to partner with you throughout your student's Bronco journey.

At Vista Murrieta, Character, Leadership, Attitude, Scholarship, and Service—CLASS—guide what we do each day. This year, we will continue connecting those values to our commitment to every student, every day, and to our district mission to inspire every student to think, to learn, to achieve, and to care. Our theme this year says it perfectly: It's a Great Day to Be a Bronco!

Tonight, we will celebrate a successful first week together at our Back to School Luau from 6:00–8:00 p.m. in the Quad. We'll have food, entertainment, music, games, and plenty of family fun, and we hope you will come out and join us. Our Link Crew Meet & Greet BBQ will take place just before the Luau from 5:00–6:00 p.m., and we especially look forward to seeing our freshman Broncos as they continue building connections and finding their place at the Ranch.

As we settle into the school year, a few important reminders will help us continue a strong start. All course change requests were due today. Our counselors will spend next week reviewing requests and continuing the important work of balancing courses and student schedules. Our priority is ensuring that every student remains on track for graduation and has access to the courses necessary for academic progress. For that reason, schedule changes cannot be made to accommodate lunch preference, teacher preference, or class-period switches. We appreciate your patience as our counseling team works carefully through this process.

Attendance is important part of student success. With our 105-minute block periods, a significant amount of instruction, collaboration, and learning takes place during a single class meeting. Consistent attendance helps students stay connected, confident, and on track. When your student is ill, please contact our attendance line to report the absence. Students who become ill while at school must report to the Health Office so our nurse can evaluate them and contact a parent or guardian if they need to be checked out.

If your student drives and needs to be dismissed early, please provide our attendance office with at least one to two hours' notice before the requested dismissal time. Early-release requests are not immediate and require time to process and for a pass to reach your student, so please plan ahead. We appreciate your help in making this process smooth and efficient.

For students who did not take their school picture during Bronco Round-Up, picture makeups will take place Wednesday, August 19, from 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Students may complete their picture makeup at any point during the school day. All students need a current photo for school identification purposes, so please make sure your student takes advantage of this opportunity if needed.

Our first Office Hours of the year will take place next Thursday, August 20. Office Hours are an important part of the academic support we provide our Broncos. Students will select the class they would like to attend and use that time to ask questions, receive additional support, work with a teacher, and strengthen their understanding of course content. I encourage our students to build the habit of using Office Hours intentionally each week. We will also be sharing our tutoring schedule shortly, which will provide another valuable layer of support throughout the semester.

Next Thursday evening also marks our first home varsity football game of the season. Our Vista Murrieta Broncos will host the Great Oak Wolfpack in Bronco Stadium at 7:00 p.m. There is something special about seeing our students, families, staff, and community come together under the lights to support our Broncos. Athletics provide another opportunity to celebrate our students, build community, and create the experiences and memories that make high school special. We hope you will join us and help bring plenty of Bronco pride to the stadium. Tickets are available through GoFan.

As this first week comes to a close, I simply want to say thank you for partnering with us as we work to create an exceptional experience for every student, every day.

We have had a tremendous opening to the school year, and there is so much to look forward to in the months ahead.

Have a wonderful and safe weekend, Bronco families. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to The Ranch on Monday for an A Day, ready for another great week of learning.

It's a Great Day to Be a Bronco!

With gratitude,

Mrs. Scallion

Mrs. Celeste Scallion
Principal
Vista Murrieta High School

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM



Mr. Dunn
Assistant Principal
9th Grade
Student Support
Health



Mr. Galloway
Assistant Principal
Co-Athletic Director
10th Grade
AVID
VAPA
Math



Mrs. Waddleton
Assistant Principal
11th Grade
Science
CTE
Careers/ICT



Mrs. Scallion
Principal



Mrs. Burow
Assistant Principal
12th Grade
Counseling
Social Science
World Language



Mrs. Velardez
Assistant Principal
Special Education
English
EL



Mr. Save
Assistant Principal
Co-Athletic Director
Athletics
PE

REMINDERS

WEEK AT A GLANCE:

AUGUST 17:
A Day

AUGUST 18:
B Day

AUGUST 19:
A Day
Late Start
Make-Up Picture Day
Freshmen Ice Cream Social

AUGUST 20:
B Day
Office Hours
Friday Night Football: Extreme Spirit & Future Broncos

AUGUST 21:
A Day

UPCOMING EVENTS:

AUGUST 23:
Cars and Coffee

AUGUST 31:
Back to School Night

A/B CALENDAR

AUG 17- AUG 21				
17	18	19	20	21
A	B	A	B	A

August 19 Late Start
August 20 Office Hours

E-TRANSPORATION CLASS

Together with the Murrieta Police Department, VMHS is hosting an E-Transportation Class. If your student intends to ride an e-bike or e-scooter to school, a parent or legal Guardian is invited to attend this presentation.

Thursday, August 20
11:40am
PAC

SAFETY COURSE & APPLICATION

ATHLETICS

Stay informed about upcoming tryouts and sporting events through our Athletic Website. Athletic tickets can be purchased through GoFan.

VMHS ATHLETICS



MESSAGES & DELIVERIES

Students should be responsible for remembering their own work, lunches, clothing, sports equipment, or other necessities; therefore, we DO NOT ACCEPT items for drop off or for delivery to students. We appreciate you helping us to reserve this function for true emergencies.

DRESS CODE

Please refer to the **VMHS 2026-27 Student Handbook** for details.

BACK TO SCHOOL LUAU



ASB CARD

DON'T FORGET!

Buy your ASB Card!

With an ASB Card you can enjoy free admission to all regular home athletic events, discount on dances, yearbooks, and many other activities.

MAKE-UP PICTURE DAY

MAKE-UP PICTURE DAY

Students and Staff
Don't miss out for Yearbook & Digital ID Pictures

School Picture Day

Wednesday, August 19
MPR

VMHS PTSA

VMHS PTSA IS BETTER...WITH YOU!
Your membership helps make great things happen — from scholarships and grants to library resources, teacher appreciation, and more!

JOIN VMHS PTSA

No volunteering required—your membership alone makes a difference! Support your child. Support your school.

Useful Links: **VMHS Website**

COUNSELING CORNER

COUNSELING TEAM



Mrs. Ponce
AVID
East Hall



Mrs. Padilla
A-Ce
East Hall



Mr. Tyler
Cha-Ge
West Hall



Mrs. Osorio
Gi-Lew
West Hall



Mrs. Candaele
NCAA & Li-N
West Hall



Mrs. Ammen
O-Sc
East Hall



Mrs. Malloy
Se-Z
East Hall



Mr. Bennett
School
Psychologist
Grades 10 - 11



Mrs. Mendoza-Blied
School
Psychologist
Grades 9 & 12



Ms. Cortez
School
Social Worker

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Broncos, please know that schedule changes were not made during the first week of school. Counselors are currently prioritizing students who are without a schedule or who are missing a course.

Schedule Change Request Forms will be addressed the week of August 17.

Schedule change requests are considered for the following criteria:

- an incomplete schedule
- course already completed
- a duplicate class
- prerequisite not met / level change
- movement of Early Release or Late Start period
- missing graduation requirement
- course level placement issue

We appreciate your patience during this process!



