August 31-September 4, 2026

Good Afternoon,
I hope everyone had a wonderful weekend! It was so good to see such a strong turn out for our outdoor volleyball game on Tuesday and Mill Valley Night Lights event on Friday. In addition, our volleyball team won their game at the St. James Slam tournament on Saturday! We are off and running with our fall season.
Another great academic week at the Valley last week. Students seem to be adjusting well to the new school year and enjoying classes. Staff has shared how well classes are going-always a good thing to hear!
Looking forward to a great week ahead-Stay curious, connected and courageous,
Dr. Holder

Learning Schedule for the Week:
Monday: Blue Block Day
Tuesday: Silver Block Day
Wednesday: Blue Block Day-LATE START! CLASSES BEGIN AT 8:20.
Thursday: Silver Block Day
Friday: Blue Block Day
Monday: September 7-No School-Labor Day!

Semester 1 Finals Opt Out:
There are several teachers at MV who will offer students the opportunity to Opt Out of semester finals. Teachers will notify students if their class will participate in this opportunity.
The criteria for eligibility is:
4 or fewer absences for the semester in a class of the opt out
Earning an A in the class of the opt out
Teachers will begin the (4) absence count after Labor Day. Students will be given further information on this process in November.

Parent/Teacher Conferences:
We invite and strongly encourage parents to attend Parent Teacher Conferences in September. This is a great time to connect with teachers and have the opportunity for face to face conversations regarding your student's academic progress. The schedule will be as follows:
September 23: 4:00 pm-7:30 pm-Held in our gym and commons area.
September 24: 9:00 am-8:00 pm-Held in teacher's classrooms

Upcoming Testing Information:
On October 6, Sophomores and juniors who have signed up and paid will have the opportunity to take the PSAT. The window to sign up for this exam has closed.
On October 13, all freshmen and sophomores will take the PreACT test. Freshmen and Sophomores DO NOT need to register for this exam.
On October 13, Juniors who have signed up and paid will have the opportunity to take the ACT. The window to sign up for this exam has closed.
On October 13, Seniors who have signed up will have the opportunity to take the ACT. The window to sign up for this exam has closed.

Class Specific Timeline Information:
Please see attached for important timeline information for students. Each grade level has a separate timeline.

Bike Riders:
We ask our bike riders to not leave bikes on the ramp outside the activity entrance, please. Please store bikes in the front of the building or against the building at the activity entrance.

Sophomore Parking Passes:
We will begin handing out Sophomore Parking passes on Tuesday. This is a lottery process. The list of sophomores will be posted on Officer Hillman's office door.

Counseling:
Senior Meetings
Counselors will begin meeting individually with senior students starting in the next couple of weeks. The senior meeting allows the counselor to finalize graduation credits, 2nd semester schedules, and decisions about post-secondary options including scholarship and financial aid information. Using their school email, students must complete an informational form at the link below. The counselors will then follow up with the student to schedule their senior meeting. (This meeting is meant for the senior student and the counselor.)
https://forms.gle/Z5hiZGGGUpMQezKG6

ACT Prep Class
Power Prep, Inc. will be offering a Saturday ACT prep class at K-State Olathe on September 12th. Please click on the link below for more information.
https://powerprepinc.com/act-test-prep/p/greater-kansas-city-area-act-prep-class?utm_campaign=ACT%20Test%20Prep%20Classes&utm_medium=email&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-_pTVp-xj9QOKyTrsn4Kzph_YNUDrKy3sc9iSXo-dUHYpQq8LIxo1WudACHj4f0dU6g2-_Ve1XXz0V8v4obLmFc6h5ucw&_hsmi=433928810&utm_content=433928810&utm_source=hs_email

Looking Ahead:
September 7-Labor Day- No school for students or staff
September 23 and 24-P/T Conferences
September 25-No school for students or staff
October 5-10-Homecoming Week!
October 15-End of first quarter
October 16 and 19-No school for students- Teacher PD Days
November 23-27-Thanksgiving Break

Thank you,
Gail Holder Ed.D.
Principal, Mill Valley High School
gholder@usd232.org
913.422.4351