November 9-13, 2026

Good Afternoon,

I hope everyone had a nice weekend.  We are just two weeks away from Thanksgiving Break.  We encourage students to stay focused on academics and do you best to adhere on timely daily attendance.

Looking forward to a great week ahead,

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

**Attention Seniors:**

Please ensure that your school fees are paid before requesting a shortened day for second semester.

**Pickleball Tourney:**

JLC is hosting our annual Pickleball Tournament this Wednesday, November 11th, at MVHS!  The action begins at 6pm—all specatators are welcome!  During the tournament we will be selling $6 meals: Chick-fil-a sandwich, chips and a drink.  We also invite you to purchase raffle tickets to win some AMAZING prizes: https://forms.gle/hWN4WCmpHEncTRFM8
All proceeds go to the MV CARES fund, which supports MV families in need, as well as to support our annual POPS Prom this spring!

**Physical Info for Winter Sports:**

This year, KSHSAA Physicals will be uploaded by families into BOUND for all of our student athletes at Mill Valley High School. Student athletes can now begin the registration process on BOUND for the 2026-2027 Winter Season. Uploading your physical will be included as part of the registration process. All physicals must be dated after April 1, 2026.

**Your student will need to submit their physical into Bound in order to participate in a KSHSAA sponsored sport or activity. If a student's physical is not submitted on Bound, they will be**

**unable to participate in that activity/sport until it is completed.**
If family has circumstances that prevent the uploading of a physical, please reach out to amber.richter@usd232.org.

Physical paperwork can be downloaded at this website: https://mvhs.usd232.org/athletics

**Blood Drive:**

When donors come to give blood 10/19-11/22, they'll receive a $10 Amazon Gift Card by email + 500 bonus points toward Donor Rewards! More info available here If you are 16 years of age or older, you are eligible to donate blood! Mill Valley is hosting a blood drive Tuesday, November 17 from 3:00-7:00pm in the Senior Cafe. If you are interested in signing up, please click this link to schedule your appointment. SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT HERE

Donating blood provides life-saving benefits for recipients by supplying critical components—such as red blood cells, platelets, and plasma—that cannot be manufactured.

General requirements for students donating:

- Age: Must be at least 16 years old (16-year-olds need parental consent where permitted by state law; 17 and older do not in most states).
- Weight: Must weigh at least 110 pounds (additional height/weight requirements apply to donors 18 and younger).
- General Health: Must be in good health and feeling well on the day of donation.

Other ineligibility questions and concerns can be answered here Donating Criteria

**High School Musical: *Oklahoma*, Wed., Thurs., Sat., and Sun.:** Our Theater Students will be presenting the musical, "Oklahoma" this week, starting on Wednesday evening at 7 pm. Shows will take place on Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 7 pm and on Sunday at 3 pm, all in the PAC.

**PreACT 9/10 Scores Returned This Week:** Students will receive their scoring guide and their test booklets back this week in Seminar. A more detailed email will be sent later this week before the test materials are returned to students during Seminar.

**Students Tried Out for District Band, Choir, and Orchestra:** Our Band, Choir, and Orchestra students tried out for the District event this weekend. The District Concert Performance which will be held on Saturday, December, 5th at Shawnee Mission Northwest High School. Students who tried out will find out on Wednesday if they made the Team.

## Spanish National Honor Society:

On Thursday, November 5, the Spanish National Honor Society officers and sponsors celebrated the incredible success of their Cambio Para Cambio fundraising campaign. Cambio Para Cambio is an initiative supporting a scholarship fund for Hispanic high school students, and Mill Valley joined forces with 50 other high schools, universities, and organizations across the Kansas City metro area for this event. With the help of the Hispanic Development Fund matching every dollar, Mill Valley successfully raised $3,100 , helping reach a historic final total of $840,000- the most ever raised in

the history of the program! This was our first time participating in this wonderful event, and we look forward to returning next year and surpassing our goals for years to come!

**Kansas Teacher of the Year Nominations:**

Do you know an outstanding teacher who deserves recognition? Nominations for the Kansas Teacher of the Year program are now open through December 4 at noon!

Teachers, staff, students, and families are encouraged to nominate a certified USD 232 teacher who makes a positive impact on students and our school community.

Nominate a teacher here: https://www.usd232.org/departments/kansas-teacher-of-the-year

**Boys' Basketball:**

All boys interested in trying out for the basketball team, there will be a quick informational meeting before school on Wednesday, Nov. 11th at 7:30 AM in the Main Gym. After school, all of those who did not participate in a Fall Sport will need to go through Concussion Training prior to tryouts. You must have a completed physical to tryout. Tryouts will begin on Monday, Nov. 16th with Soph-Seniors at 3:15 PM and Freshmen at 6 PM.

**Counseling Message:**

**Senior Newsletter - November**

The link below is the latest senior newsletter including the latest scholarship opportunities.
https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1793810881/usd232org/w84cab6ngq51d4i9fdj7/November2026SeniorNewsletter.pdf

**Counseling JagAwareness Newsletter - November**

The link below is the latest counseling newsletter including several opportunities for students.
https://www.canva.com/design/DAHUEUFlwqI/GCnc0NkTv8EK-cHT6B7CwQ/view

**2nd Semester Schedule Changes**

Just a reminder…
When students were asked to choose their courses last spring, they were asked to choose with intention since they wouldn't be allowed to change their schedules. This is true for 2nd semester courses as well. The following are the requests that would be considered.

1. Addition to an Application/Audition Course: A teacher may request a student to be added to their application/audition class if it doesn't conflict with other year-long course obligations.
2. A student has failed a year-long course, and the teacher recommends they move to another course.

**ACT Prep Class**

Please click on the link below for the latest information regarding ACT Prep Classes hosted by Power Prep.
http://actprep.info/millvalley

**Congratulations to our Jaguars:**

## Football:

Congratulations to our Jaguar Football team on being named 6A Regional Champions after a dominant win versus Olathe South this past week. The game finished with a score of 47-7 and was capped off by a special performance from Max Piva who now holds or is tied for records in Career Rushing Yards, Career Rushing Touchdowns, Season Rushing Yards, Season Rushing Touchdowns, Single Game Rushing Yards, and Single Game Rushing Touchdowns. Congratulations, Max! The Jags will be playing again this Friday, October 13th at 7:00pm in the 6A Regional Playoff game versus the Olathe North Eagles. Come out to support our boys as they continue their playoff run!

**Cheer:**

The Mill Valley Cheerleaders had an incredible weekend competing at the UCA Missouri Regional, alongside teams from Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri!

The Jaguars brought home:

**1st Place – Varsity Performance Routine**
**1st Place – Varsity Game Day Routine**
**Judges' Choice Award**

Both routines also earned bids to the UCA National High School Cheerleading Championship in Orlando, Florida, at the end of January 2027!

We are incredibly proud of the hard work, focus, and commitment this team continues to show as they move through competition season.

Next stop: KSHSAA State Cheerleading Championship on November 21 at the Stormont Vail Events Center in Topeka, Kansas.

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