<u>Diana Hicke</u>, School Counselor for the Class of 2025, Class of 2026 A-F Wes Andrews, School Counselor for the Class of 2023, Class of 2026 G-O

<u>Charlene Jakich</u>, Chair, School Counselor for the Class of 2024, Class of 2026 P-Z

Renae Bafus, College & Career Center

Dee Bishop, Counseling Secretary

<u>Jen Wilson</u>, Registrar



## Moscow High School Counseling Center Update September 14, 2022

Welcome to a new school year! We hope things are off to a great start for our students.

We officially welcomed our 229 new freshmen during last week's **MHS Youth Empowerment Day** at East City Park. It was a time for them to get to know each other and our senior leaders, play games, learn about our school's positive culture, and most importantly to help them know that **they belong at MHS**!

**Dual Credit Registration** will soon be concluding for the fall semester. Students interested in Dual Credit will need to start the process as soon as possible. It takes 3-5 business days for the U of I to generate Vandal Numbers, and the <u>signed Dual Credit</u> <u>packets are due</u> in the counseling office by Friday, September 16th. Please remember that if the course isn't working out for any reason, students can drop without penalty by Friday, October 7th. If that deadline is missed, students can still withdraw from the course by December 2nd, though this is not ideal since it posts a "W" on their college transcript and also affects their Advanced Opportunities funding.

MHS Counselors will be visiting seniors in Government classes on September 27th and 28th to discuss senior business such as **college applications**, **financial aid processes**, **and letters of recommendation**. MHS counselors and Ms. Bafus in the Career Center are here to help students on their plans for after high school.

**Seniors**, keep in mind that the <u>Free Application for Federal Student Aid</u> (**FAFSA**) opens for submission on October 1st. This application is required for all students who want to be considered for any form of federal aid in college, including work study, and is also required to be considered for many scholarship opportunities





All MHS families are invited to stick around after Open House to hear from the University of Idaho's Randi Croyle and Richie Harman during our **Financial Aid Night** on Wednesday, September 14th at 7:15 PM. Randi and Richie will discuss the ins-and-outs of how to pay for college and how to find resources to meet your specific needs. This presentation is intended for all high school students who plan on attending a college or university.

The **PSAT** (**Practice SAT**) will be offered at MHS on October 12th for any 10th and 11th graders who would like to take it. The PSAT can give students an idea of strengths and needs for further development and help with targeted SAT preparation. For Juniors, the PSAT is a National Merit Scholar Qualifying Test as the top 1% of test-takers per state may be eligible to participate in the National Merit Scholar competition. The PSAT is free for Sophomores and online registration is available now. For Juniors, the cost is \$18 which can be paid in exact change or check to Ms. Bishop in the counseling office. Fee waivers are available for students who qualify for the school lunch program. More information on both the SAT and PSAT can be found here at the Testing section of the MHS Counseling website.



There is a <u>PSAT study guide</u> available through CollegeBoard, and Princeton Review is hosting a <u>free PSAT strategy session</u> on October 3rd and October 6th.

Juniors will take the SAT at MHS on Wednesday, April 12th, 2023. Taking a college-entrance exam like the SAT or ACT is a requirement for graduation in Idaho. The Princeton Review is offering a free SAT Strategy Session on December 5th and an ACT Strategy Session on December 6th. Seniors, you still have time to self-register to take the ACT or retake the SAT to improve your score. Over 1,800 universities are now test-optional, but a good score can still help admission chances and improve one's course placement for English and Math.

The ACT is the other nationally recognized exam accepted by all colleges and universities. Between the SAT and ACT, many students do better on one than the other, and we can help students learn the differences. The cost of the first time you take the ACT can be **reimbursed** for Idaho students (ask us how!).

<b>ACT</b> (MHS code 130415)	Registration Deadline	Late Deadline
October 22, 2022	September 16, 2022	September 30, 2022
December 10, 2022	November 4, 2022	November 11, 2022
February 11, 2023	January 6, 2023	January 20, 2023

<b>SAT</b> (MHS code 130415)	Registration Deadline	Late Deadline
October 1, 2022	September 2, 2022	September 20, 2022
November 5, 2022	October 7, 2022	October 25, 2022
December 3, 2022	November 3, 2022	November 22, 2022





## SITE SUPERVISORS

- Supervise day-to-day operations at an afterschool site, including staff, programs, and facilities.
- \$16.82/hour

## **GROUP LEADERS**

- Supervise kindergarten through fifth grade students after school, during in-service days, and on some breaks.
- \$14.94/hour

GARNETTD@MSD281.ORG 208-892-3998



**Juniors**: applications are open for the **Idaho Science and Aerospace Scholars** (ISAS) program, a STEM course provided at no cost to the student. <u>Apply by October 23rd</u>. Idaho Science and Aerospace Scholars (ISAS) is a competitive program that allows high school juniors to take an engaging online NASA-developed course on Space Exploration through Idaho Digital Learning Alliance that teaches a broad range of STEM skills.

In addition to earning the <u>Seal of Biliteracy</u>, students may **earn high school credits by demonstrating proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking in another language** through an Avant STAMP assessment. STAMP assessments are available in over 50 languages, and they currently cost \$19.90 per exam. Students who are interested can use <u>this form</u> to apply to take an exam. For more information, see our <u>Language</u> <u>Competency Frequently Asked Questions</u>.

Our next **Advisory Council** meeting will be in October. Our Advisory Council is a group of stakeholders who would like to review and advise us on the implementation of the MHS school counseling program. We have two Advisory Council meetings per year. Parents, students, staff, administration, and community members are welcome to join. Email Wes at <a href="mailto:andrewsw@msd281.org">andrewsw@msd281.org</a> if you'd like to be a part of it.

An **Idaho Food Bank School Pantry** is conveniently located in the Moscow High School basement to help you get food for your family for no charge. We are thankful for our partnership with the Idaho Food Bank and local donors. To access the Food Pantry by appointment or for more information, contact <u>Diana Hicke</u>.

How can I meet with my MHS Counselor? We can meet with students during non-core classes or during an available class period. You can use our online scheduler <a href="http://go.oncehub.com/MHSCounselors">http://go.oncehub.com/MHSCounselors</a> to schedule appointments in order to discuss individual planning, academic and college advising, or personal concerns. We welcome meetings with **parents** as well and ask that you schedule your appointment through the Counseling Center Secretary, Dee Bishop, by calling (208) 882-2591.







**Question from an MHS student**: Should I take Dual Credit even if I don't plan on attending the University of Idaho or Northwest Nazarene University?

**Answer**: If you anticipate getting a good grade in your Dual Credit class, then we recommend taking advantage of the opportunity. It wouldn't hurt your chances of admission at a different university, and there is a good chance that it will save you some time and money. Keep in mind that each college sets its criteria for which transfer credits they accept; look for "transfer equivalency search" or "transfer credit search" on their websites. This is something that we can help you with. If you are planing to attend a different college in Idaho, then you can follow the guide at coursetransfer.idaho.gov to see how your credits will transfer. General Education Matriculation courses are universally accepted across all state institutions in Idaho.

On our campus, MHS students have access to numerous Dual Credit courses through the University of Idaho and Northwest Nazarene University. MHS students can also take courses for Dual Credit on the campus of the University of Idaho or online through any college in Idaho. It's very common for students to have credits from their local colleges while they are in high school, so don't let this deter you from taking Dual Credit.

There is a big upside to taking Dual Credit courses, but make sure you know what you are getting into. Some MHS Dual Credit courses require extra projects, for example, so talk with your teacher if you have any questions before you turn in the registration packet.

If a friend or loved one is in crisis, there is help available.

Call **911** if there is an imminent danger to self or others.

Idaho Crisis & Suicide Hotline: 988 [Call or Text]

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 988 [Call or Text]

The Crisis Text Line [Text 741741] can receive texts about any number of issues, including isolation, anxiety, depression, self-harm, stress, abuse, grief, etc.