

Welcome to the 2020 - 2021 School Year!

PRINCIPALS MESSAGE:

Dear Malibu High Students and Families,

Malibu High welcomes YOU to the 2020-2021 school year! Students, it is almost time to get ready as school starts on **Thursday, August 20th**. Enjoy these final weeks of summer while getting prepared and hopefully excited to begin another interesting, but wonderful new school year. We are looking forward to an exciting, engaging, and productive year whether online or in person!

Please see recent information sent regarding the start of the 2020-2021 school year:

- <https://www.smmusd.org/School2020-21>

At MHS, we are all fortunate to be part of such a special community of students, teachers, counselors, administrators, support staff and community members who are here to serve and are thrilled to start the new school year. MHS is a special place and thanks to the combined efforts of students, parents, community, teachers and staff we will continue to do great work in 2020-2021 and beyond. We will overcome!

This year, we are looking forward to the opening of the super structure. Building AB as it is referred to will house offices, 3 science labs for middle school, 4 classrooms, the library, College and Career Center, and Multimedia spaces. It will improve campus security with a single-entry point and improve the entrance to Malibu High School. We will be greeted with a building the community can be very proud of when we turn the curve on Morning View and not a chain link fence. Unfortunately, do to some delays this building is now scheduled to open in January for the spring semester. We also continue with planning and construction as we now shift to the design of a new high school building that will be built on the Cabrillo campus in the near future.

This year, we have also added a number of Project Based Learning labs to our master schedule including a MultiMedia lab experience (English 10/Visual Art), Marine Science Field Research lab experience (Marine Biology/Stats) and a linked Freshman Seminar/English 9 experience focused on health/public policy/social justice in the fall. Teachers in all settings are continuing to increase their own capacity to design and carry out meaningful hands on experiences for our students with real work application. Products and performances for audiences beyond the classroom teacher or contained to the classroom walls is the direction we are shifting to.

We have also increased our AP Course offerings, bringing back AP Music Theory as a course offering for our students. It returns and joins a long list of other AP course offerings in all departments: AP European History, AP US History, AP Government, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics 1, AP Physics 2, AP Studio Art 2D, AP Studio Art 3D, AP Drawing, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, AP English 11, AP English 12. Our students performed at very high levels on the recently announced AP tests for 2019-2020, despite 2 very challenging years for the Malibu

community! I am proud of each of them and their teachers who invest so much into planning, preparing, and caring for our students.

I want to thank you again for your support and patience throughout last year and thank you in advance as we know this year will be equally if not more challenging. Your efforts, contributions, trust, and support strengthen our strong community and your active involvement helps ensure each student learns, is supported, and nurtured.

We ask that you carefully review each item contained on the 2020-2021 Back to School/Registration Page. It contains information and forms you will need to submit by email before August 14, 2020.

Given our current situation, there are more questions than answers and many items that require additional information. Please continue to check your email for upcoming [Monday Messages \(link to Monday Messages Page\)](#) that will include the following information, once it is known:

- **Picture Day**
- **Student Store Purchases**
- **Parking Permits**
- **Textbook Distribution**
- **Student Schedules**
- **Transportation/Bus Passes**
- **Nutrition Services**
- **Additional Athletics Updates**
- **Distance Learning Plan**
- **Upcoming Parent Meetings**
- **First Day Plans**

If for any reason your child will NOT be attending Malibu High School, please email bsoloway@smmusd.org immediately so we can plan our class configurations and placements as accurately as possible and enroll students who have been placed on our waiting list or have applied for a permit.

We look forward to “seeing you” on Thursday, August 20th! I am excited for the 2020-2021 school year, although it is not the same Back to School anxious, excitement as normal. I look forward to supporting all of our students, families and staff as we continue to navigate these crazy times and I especially look forward to being on campus together again and to celebrating lots of successes throughout the year.

Have a wonderful last few weeks of summer!

Patrick Miller
Principal, Malibu High School

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

MHS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Visit the MHS website at www.malibu.smmusd.org for additional information including Bell Schedules, Summer Reading Lists, and other helpful links.

There is a Parent Resources page that can be found at: <https://www.smmusd.org/domain/680>

HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS: High School Counseling assignments are as follows: Ms. Makenna Samsel (Students with LAST NAMES beginning with letters **A-K**) and Mrs. Katie Dahm (Students with LAST NAMES beginning with letters **L-Z**).

WELCOME NEW MHS STAFF!: MHS welcomes Ms. Sarah Lipetz as our new High School Chemistry Teacher! Ms. Lipetz has been a chemistry teacher and department chair at Samohi for many years and previously taught our MHS Get Ahead Summer Chemistry course. We also welcome Ms. Stephanie Miller who will be replacing Mr. Sessions as the STEP Program Counselor. Ms. Miller was previously a counselor at Olympic High School. We are finalizing hiring a new Life Skills Teacher to replace Ms. Smith.

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATION: New applications need to be completed annually (one per family). For more information, visit: <https://www.smmusd.org/Page/4083>.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: The first day of school is **Thursday, August 20th**. Even if students believe there is an error in their schedule, they are to attend all the classes shown on their official schedule until it can be resolved with their counselor.

CALENDARS: We are in the process of updating our school calendar with all of the 2020-2021 school year events. Please note, that many events will have to be cancelled, postponed, or changed in format. All events and dates are subject to change. However, the calendars are great places to look! The district calendar is available online. Please note start of school, end of school, and all holidays. Please plan vacations and absences of a personal nature around the school/district calendar. Daily attendance at school is extremely important!

MHS EVENTS CALENDAR: <https://www.smmusd.org/Page/36>

SMMUSD CALENDAR: <https://www.smmusd.org/cms/lib/CA50000164/Centricity/Shared//calendars/cal2021.pdf>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION/REGISTRATION FORMS:

It is very important that you read all of the information on the Back to School/Registration website and return signed forms by email to malibuforms@smmusd.org before August 14, 2020! Below is a summary of the materials you are being asked to read and/or sign.

REGISTRATION 2020-2021 – TO READ AND KEEP:

SMMUSD Rights and Responsibilities Information Booklet – Each year, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District publishes a booklet informing parents and students of their rights and

responsibilities. Please read and review the booklet with your student. Retain the booklet or bookmark the electronic link for future use.

SMMUSD District Policies - Controlled Substance, Weapons, Bullying, Hate-Motivated Behavior, Mobile Device Guidelines, Tobacco Use and Telecommunications Acceptable Use Policies – We ask all students and parents to carefully review the District’s policies regarding controlled substances, forbidden weapons, bullying, hate motivated behavior and tobacco use. We encourage parents to discuss these policies with your student to ensure that he or she understands the policies and the consequences for violating them. These policies are important in ensuring a safe and healthy campus for all students. We will go over these in classrooms with our students as well.

MHS School Policies - Dress Code Policy, Civility Policy, Attendance Guidelines and Tardy Policy, and Cell Phone and Electronics Policy - Parents, please review the dress code, tardy and cell phone/electronics policies we use at MHS with your student(s) to ensure an understanding of the policies and the consequences for violating them. We will go over these in classrooms with our students as well. In addition, review the civility policy to assure all adults engage in courteous discourse.

Student Accident and Health Insurance Program Application – Applications for low cost accident insurance for students are available in the main office and online. The accident insurance is an affordable insurance option for students including student athletes. Completed applications are to be returned to the Main Office (Athletic applications must be returned to the school office) or mailed directly to Myers Stevens.

ONLINE REGISTRATION 2020-2021 – TO BE RETURNED BY EMAIL TO MALIBUFORMS@SMMUSD.ORG:

- 1. Student Emergency and Information Form** - It is very important that we have accurate emergency contact information for every student. Please complete and return by emails the emergency form. It should be completed by the parent. (If you are a High School athlete, print additional copies of the emergency form – one copy for the athletic trainer and one copy for every sport you intend to play.)
- 2. District and School Policy Signature Page** - This is a comprehensive sign-off page that needs to be completed and returned on GYSD. This provides a sign-off for the following policies and practices:
 1. SMMUSD Rights and Responsibilities Booklet
 2. District Policies: Controlled Substance, Weapons, Bullying, Hate-Motivated Behavior, Tobacco Use and Telecommunication Acceptable Use (AUP) Policy, Mobile Device Guidelines
 3. MHS School Policies: Dress Code Policy, Civility Policy, Tardy Policy and Cell Phone/Electronics Policy

- 3. General Filming and Recording Student Release Form** – During the school year, students are occasionally photographed, filmed and/or recorded during school activities and field trips. The recordings may be exhibited at school as part of curricular and extracurricular activities; published in internal/external newsletters, public relations materials and other District publications; and released to news and documentary organizations to recognize the work of the school and our students. They may also be published and shown as parts of other broadcasts. This release allows your child to be recorded and allows the District to use and circulate these recordings. Return one of these forms per student.

REGISTRATION 2020-2021 – COMPLETE ONLINE:

- 1. PTSA Directory, Volunteer and Membership Form** – Parents (and students) are highly encouraged to participate in our PTSA. Our PTSA is an important resource for parents seeking to stay connected with Malibu High and other parents. Go online to complete this process/form to be included in the PTSA Student/Staff Directory, to volunteer at Malibu High and to join the PTSA.
- 2. Donate to The Shark Fund** - Even in our current situation, there are staff, programs, and materials that are dependent on donor funds. We continue to ask all families to donate to the Shark Fund with a suggested donation of \$2,000. Believe it or not, your donations are more important now, than ever before given shortfalls the previous couple years. Please consider giving at www.thesharkfund.org.