

# MALIBU HIGH SCHOOL

## MONDAY MESSAGE – FEBRUARY 19, 2024

School is closed Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> for  
Presidents' Day

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Dear Malibu High Families,

*This past week, during Coffee with the Counselors, we heard from Holly Baxter and Trevor Ludington from Ludington Institute of Family Enrichment in Westlake Village. Their talk about supporting students reminded me of a presentation last year with Mr. Kirk Brennan, Director of Undergraduate Admission at USC. What resonated with me from both talks, and what I wanted to re-share with all of you, were their poignant reminders about **what do we really value** and **what do we really want for our kids**.*

*Mr. Brennan highlighted the negative impact of the current pressure cooker environment of college admissions where ranking and branding and family or self-pressure tied to a perceived status matter more than actual accomplishment, skill development, or student wellbeing. His talk reminded me of the work Malibu High previously did with Challenge Success, a think-tank out of Stanford, that focuses on best "fit" for college admissions and a focus on student well-being throughout their academic experience including actual learning and student engagement beyond "playing the game of school" as well as positive relationships and positive behaviors*

*He expressed caution that we are raising kids that feel it is more important what "he" thinks of their activities rather than what skills or fulfillment they actually gain through that activity. He expressed worry that our kids are doing a lot, but to what end and why? He said kids, and I agree, should be doing their best in whatever they choose to spend their time doing and need to stop trying to "look the best" compared to others. His keyword throughout his talk was the **importance of AUTHENTICITY**. It reminded me of a quote I have previously shared with students, "The best inspiration is not to out-do others but to out-do self."*

*He illustrated a schism he often sees by posing two questions: Did you do your best? And Could you have done better? He said, often kids say yes to both questions which are really in conflict with each other. As I continue to support students, I will continue to emphasize the importance of effort and attitude and the importance of being committed to activities or causes that bring growth and new skills and not simply to check boxes or try to look good to someone else. At MHS, we will continue to provide our students the knowledge, skills, opportunities, and environment where each of our children CAN realize their individual best daily. I emphasize the word CAN, because at the end of the day, they have to do their*

*part, do the work, put in the effort, apply themselves, etc. Let's all continue to remind our kids to simply, "Do your best" and to be "Be your best" and stop trying to inauthentically present as better than someone else.*

*Patrick Miller, Principal*

## SCHOOL NEWS AND INFORMATION:

### START PLANNING FOR SUMMER:

- **MHS/SMMUSD SPONSORED SUMMER SCHOOL OPTIONS:** We will again offer 3 summer programs: Credit Recovery for students to make up any course with D/F grade, Get Ahead Geometry as an acceleration option on our math pathway, and ESY-Extended School Year which is a program for students on IEP who qualify. The Credit Recovery/ Math Acceleration dates are **June 24 - July 26**. The program hours will be similar to previous summers: **8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**
- **SMC SUMER OPTIONS:** Students may also pursue college level coursework through SMC or other programs and earn dual credit, for FREE. SMC Chem 10 can be used to accelerate. For more information on any summer programs or dual enrollment, reach out to your counselor.
- **PRIVATE SUMMER PROGRAMS:** Parents of 9-11<sup>th</sup> graders: As we approach summer, many students are seeking out programs they can participate in. Here is a list of Summer programs that are low cost or FREE for students to explore. The link is here:  
<https://www.appily.com/guidance/counselors/college-greenlight/free-pre-college-summer-programs>

**THE SHARK FUND** is asking for parents to donate towards the February Donation Drive, to help raise the remaining \$158,931 to reach the funding goals, every contribution counts, and together, we can make a significant difference for our schools. The requested donation amount was \$2,500 for every child at the start of the year, but every amount counts - we are currently at 40% family participation. ALSO, as part of the donation drive, we are asking every family to contribute \$50 towards the staff appreciation party on March 8th. Donate to the February Donation Drive here: <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/ShowTheLoveMalibu>

**YEARBOOK:** Books will be significantly more expensive as the year progresses, so please buy it now!  
Link: <http://yearbooks3.pixami.com/MalibuHigh/home3/Bookstore.jsp>

- **Grade 12:** *The deadline has passed to submit Senior portraits, baby photos, reflection photos and senior quotes, BUT you can still purchase parent recognition ads to celebrate your senior AND still purchase a yearbook. Books will be significantly more expensive as the year progresses, so please buy it now! Link to both the ad and book:*  
<http://yearbooks3.pixami.com/MalibuHigh/home3/Bookstore.jsp>

**CA STATE SEAL OF BILITERACY (GRADE 12):** The California State Seal of Biliteracy is a special recognition for seniors who have a high level of proficiency in two languages. Those that apply and meet the [criteria](#) will receive the CA State Seal of Biliteracy insignia on their diploma. Seniors who meet the requirements must apply using the google form in the senior google classroom page or see your school counselor. The deadline to apply is March 1. Any questions, see your counselor. [Link to SSB application](#)

## THIS WEEK AT MHS:

**NO SCHOOL:** Malibu High School and all SMMUSD schools will be closed on **Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>** in observance of Presidents' Day.

**WINTER INTERIM ASSESSMENTS:** Students will be taking interim assessments in their math class and English Class **February 12 - February 23**. Students must use their district Chromebook to take the test. Students should charge their school chromebook and restart their chromebook to ensure all updates are completed prior to these dates.

**HIGH SCHOOL COURSE REGISTRATION:** Counselors will be presenting to classes and meeting with students to discuss course requests for the 2024-2025 school year between **February 20 and March 1**. Students should carefully select classes, as program and staffing decisions are made based off of these requests and changes cannot be made at a later date.

**CONGRESSMAN SHERMAN TOWNHALL:** We are working on an assembly on **Wednesday, February 21st** with Congressman Brad Sherman during Support Period.

**PARENT RESOURCE NETWORK MEETUP:** The SMMUSD Parent Resource Network is hosting a meetup for all Malibu parents of Special Education students, or students with IEPs. Let's get together, share resources, and support one another! Malibu PRN representatives will be there to answer any questions about the IEP process and share information about upcoming events. Please join us at Malibu Pacific Church, 3324 Malibu Cyn. Rd., **Thursday February 22, 6:30-7:30**, upstairs in the event space. Please RSVP and direct any questions to [denise.prn.smmusd@gmail.com](mailto:denise.prn.smmusd@gmail.com).

**END OF GP4:** The end of the first grading period of the spring semester is **Friday, February 23rd**. Progress reports will be available in the Aeries Parent Portal the following week. Please remember, this first grading period will only reflect a handful of assignments so ensure that you are completing all tasks asked of you on time, and to the best of your ability.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**MALIBU HIGH SCHOOL TRACK INVITATIONAL:** The Malibu High School Track Invitational is coming up on **February 24<sup>th</sup>** and the Athletic Booster Club is asking for support. This is a large fundraiser for the booster club, and a great event for the track team, where we get 25 schools and 800+ athletes coming to our event. Parents & students can **volunteer** to work the event here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F4BA8A928ABFF2-47509743-malibu>

**PTSA GENERAL MEETING:** The next general PTSA meeting is **Thursday, February 29 at 9:00** in the Library Classroom. The change in location is a result of the Parent Center being used as an Election Center.

**MASQUE:** 3 Nights! **February 29, March 1, and March 2**. This annual event showcases our tremendously talented students while raising money for Prom.

**GLOBAL DAY OF UNPLUGGING:** The SMMUSD school board passed a [resolution in support of the Global Day of Unplugging, March 1 and 2, 2024](#). Our PTA partners are supporting efforts, encouraging Parents to Wait Until 8 and sharing current research about the detrimental impact of technology and screens on our young people.

**NAMI PRESENTATIONS (GRADE 9):** Students will be participating in the NAMI Ending the Silence Program in their Freshman Seminar classes **March 5**. The [Ending The Silence](#) program for schools has been specifically tailored for students to help end the shame, stigma, and silence that have surrounded the topic of mental health for too long.

**SELPA RESOURCE FAIR:** The SELPA is putting on a community resource fair for all special education families in SMMUSD, CCUSD and BHUSD on **Saturday, March 9**. There will be speakers, resources for summer programs, after school programming information and so much more. See the attached flyers in English and Spanish. [click here](#) and [click here](#)

**VOLUNTEER TRAINING:** Interested in volunteering on campus, during the school day in any capacity? Then you must be processed and cleared as a Level 1 volunteer which includes completing volunteer packet, TB questionnaire, and attending an in-person training. The next Parent Volunteer Trainings (mainly for Friendly Faces) will be offered in person on **Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>** after the POMS meeting (approximately 11:00 am.) To prepare, parents can begin to complete [the volunteer packet for Level 1 volunteers here](#).

**SAT AT MHS - FREE (GRADE 11):** The new digital SAT will be administered at Malibu High School on **Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>** during school hours.

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION:

**JOBS AVAILABLE!:** We're hiring at MMS and MHS! Library Assistant, Campus Safety, Instructional Assistant - Band, Lifeguard...<https://www.schooljobs.com/careers/smmusd>

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES:** All MHS students are expected to complete 20 hours annually of service learning hours in our community. Students can self-select activities or participate in opportunities listed in the CSL platform, [www.csl.smmusd.org](http://www.csl.smmusd.org). Questions/Sign Ups, contact Kim, [kretts@smmusd.org](mailto:kretts@smmusd.org). Some upcoming events include:

1. Spring Malibu Little League, help with field maintenance, snack shack, coaching assisting and swag table. Email Caileen Uznis ([mcilvery@hotmail.com](mailto:mcilvery@hotmail.com)) to sign up! A great, outside, social opportunity to do with friends!
2. **Malibu High Track Invitational, 2/24. This is a large event and there are volunteer needs for both parents and students, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F4BA8A928ABFF2-47509743-malibu>**
3. Malibu Public Library, 3 hours/week working in the bookstore. \*Contact [harrietpollon@yahoo.com](mailto:harrietpollon@yahoo.com)
4. Malibu Methodist Bake & Share, bake at home and deliver on Monday (earns 3 hours)

## BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF MALIBU:

*The Boys & Girls Club of Malibu aims to provide a fun, safe, and creative environment for all Malibu youth to thrive, find support through positive mentorship, develop important life skills, and receive social and emotional support. We are currently offering programs for teens to use as a social, developmental, and supplemental tool. Current offerings include:*

- **BGCM Membership Enrollment is LIVE.** Enroll at [BGCMALIBU.ORG](http://BGCMALIBU.ORG) Available for incoming grades 6th-12th. Programs will include: service learning trips, field trips, social emotional wellness, outdoor activities & more! [Enroll Here](#) | [Inscribirse Aquí](#)
- **Third Space is OPEN at Malibu Village!** Third Space is a storefront, gallery and an innovation space for youth to be mentored and inspired. A project of the Boys & Girls Club of Malibu, made possible by many generous community contributors. A percentage of all store purchases benefit the Boys & Girls Club of Malibu:
  - Safe spaces after-school
  - Mental health services for youth, families and aging population
  - Drug and alcohol prevention programming
  - Innovative and inspiring opportunities for youth
  - Regenerative systems and educational initiatives

Here, in our vibrant community, we value care, connection, and creativity. We offer youth, families, and visitors of all ages the chance to explore products from local, sustainable and social entrepreneurs. To learn more, visit [thirdspacemalibu.org](http://thirdspacemalibu.org) Follow us on IG/FB: @thirdspacemalibu

- **Goals for Graduation** for grades 9th-12th. Monthly workshops to support college and career readiness. Meetings will take place on the school campus, once a month, on Monday's during lunch. Students do not have to be Club members in order to participate. **The next meeting is on 3/4.** To sign up, please email [violetway@bgcmalibu.org](mailto:violetway@bgcmalibu.org)
- **Brent's Club** is an incentivized social-emotional wellness program focused on racial justice, youth advocacy, drug prevention, and building peer support by connecting with other Brent's Clubs and youth from diverse communities. Meetings are bi-weekly on Mondays, during lunch, on the school campus. Lunch will be provided every meeting! Email [violetway@bgcmalibu.org](mailto:violetway@bgcmalibu.org) for more info.
- **BGCM Wellness Center Parent Support Group Feb 1-March 14**  
Join the BGCM Malibu Wellness Center, in partnership with SMMUSD, to participate in a weekly interactive series for parents. This group is designed to help navigate many of the challenges faced during different developmental stages of your teen's life. Open to parents of children of all ages. Topics include: understanding your child/teen, connecting with your child/teen, enforcing rules, talking about the tough stuff, and planning for the future. Taking place every Thursday (6 week series via zoom) Register for free <https://bit.ly/ParentGroup2024>
- **BGCM Wellness Center & Social Support Offerings** The Boys & Girls Club of Malibu Wellness Center operates remotely and also in-person to provide no-cost social support & mental health counseling to all in the community. Visit <https://bgcmalibu.org/wellness-center/> to learn more or to request services for you/your teen. There is currently NO WAITLIST for services. PSA: Parents! If you've missed any parent workshops, they are available on our website at <https://bgcmalibu.org/wellness-center-resources/>

*\*To contact the Club please call [310-457-1400](tel:310-457-1400) (Admin) or [310-241-3675](tel:310-241-3675) (Programs)  
Email [info@bgcmalibu.org](mailto:info@bgcmalibu.org) For updates on Club news & events, subscribe to BGCM E-Newsletter [Here](#)*