



Mustang Messenger

Mebane Middle
School

Mustang Messenger
August 2017

Welcome Mustang Students and Parents!

**The Administrative and Support Staff at Mebane Middle
School looks forward to another great year!**

Mrs. Manda Bessner

Principal

Dr. Melissa Pratto

Assistant Principal

Mr. David Hamblen

Dean of Students

Mr. Dustin McMillan

School Counselor

SCHOOL DAY

School hours are from **7:45 AM to 2:05 PM**. Students attend seven classes per day. Monday, Thursday, and Friday—classes are 43 minutes long. Parents please make sure students are on time to maximize their educational opportunities.

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

The school's main office is open from 7:00 AM until 3:30 PM, (Fridays @ 3:00PM) Please arrange to call or visit during those hours.

People to know at MMS

Team Leaders:

Mrs. A. Armstrong (6th grade)

Mrs. K. White (7th Grade)

Mrs. J. Krames (8th Grade)

Media Specialist

Mrs. L. Bailey

EDEP Coordinator

(After School Program)

Mrs. Ashley Matthews

Mebane Middle School
Pathway to Success

- **Be Respectful**
- **Be Responsible**
- **Be Ready to Learn**





Curriculum Corner

Dear Parents,

Thank you for all your help during the first few weeks of school. As a school, we are pleased to add a couple new teachers to our outstanding Mebane staff. Mebane welcomes Mrs. Cushing as the new band and chorus teacher. Ms. Allen will join the faculty teaching Life Science and Ms. Young will teach reading and language arts. Mr. Carreiro will join Mebane this year as our Civics teacher.

Several of our teachers are retraining to the Mebane this year. Ms. Breczinski, Mr. Gullic, and Ms. Scott are out of field for gifted, but have begun the gifted endorsement coursework. Ms. Diley and Ms. Krames are currently out of field for English Language Learners.

Intensive reading and language arts courses during the 2017-18 school year are paid for through drop out prevention funds. Mebane appreciates the additional funding which will provide intensive instruction to students enrolled in those core academic courses.

Please emphasize with your child the importance of keeping up with all work in their classes. If you have questions or concerns at any time of the year, I strongly encourage you to contact your child's teacher. Working together as a team we will help our Mebane students achieve success.

Sincerely,

Manda Bessner

Principal

ID Badges

All students have received ID badges for the 2017-2018 school year. These badges are used for students riding the bus and in the cafeteria and media center. Students are expected to wear their ID badges around their neck daily.

In order to efficiently allow students to get their lunches, students with ID badges will go through the food lunch line first.

If a student loses their ID badge, a new one may be purchased for \$2.00.

Please be sure to talk to your child about the importance of bringing the card to school every day. Together we can help promote the safety of our students and the efficiency of our school!



HOMEWORK REQUESTS

A parent may request homework by calling the Front Office. A minimum of 24 hours advance notice is needed to obtain homework from teachers. If homework is provided, the student is expected to have it completed and turned in to the teacher upon his or her return to school.

DELIVERIES FOR STUDENTS

Mebane works very hard to limit disruptions to the instructional environment of our classrooms. We purposely limit announcements and other items to avoid disruptions during instructional time.

We can accept items only from a parent, guardian, or someone listed on your student's emergency card. There are no exceptions. If parents wish to have grandparents, brothers, sisters, or other family members to be able to make deliveries to students, their names must be listed on the student's emergency card.

As always, there can be no deliveries of flowers, balloons, candy, or other non-school related items during the instructional day.

ATTENTION PARENTS

For your child's protection, MMS policy restricts contact with students to parents/legal guardians and those persons who have been authorized by the parents/legal guardians. "Contact" includes checking a student out of school, asking to speak to a student, or making deliveries of any kind (i.e. homework, gym clothes, etc.). This policy covers all "non-parents" including immediate family (siblings, grandparents, uncles, aunts), as well as friends, neighbors, etc. This policy means only those visitors that have been pre-approved by parents may have contact with students. Non-parents can be approved by listing those names on your child's signed emergency card. If you have any questions, please contact MMS at 386-462-1648

TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks will be issued to students through each of their classes. Once textbooks have been issued, students are responsible for each book until the textbooks are returned to the teachers who issued them. If textbooks are lost, students are financially responsible for those books. No textbooks will be issued until any and all textbook debts have been cleared. Students should take care of their textbooks because they are not easily replaced. Book covers can save money.





ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

Does your student suffer from even occasional headaches or menstrual cramps? Does he/she need to carry inhalers anytime during the year or carry an EpiPen for a severe allergy? Since students are not permitted to carry medication (this includes any over the counter medication), a permission slip must be filled out by the parent and kept in the clinic. This is for your student's safety, so staff and faculty know of your student's condition and it's severity.

From Alachua County School Services Handbook-

Parents of those students receiving medication from school personnel will furnish the school with a separate supply of the medication, in its original (pharmacy or store labeled) bottle. Parents are required to bring medication directly to the clinic. Students are not permitted to carry medication except in specific approved cases (i.e., asthma, insulin, EpiPen®).

If you have any questions, please stop by the clinic or contact me at 386-462-1648.

Have a safe and healthy school year!!

TELEPHONE USE

Unless students are sick or there is an emergency, they will not be allowed to use office telephones. A student may be in possession of a cellular telephone at school. The cellular phone should NOT be visible and should NOT be turned on during the following times: while riding a school bus to and from school; during class time (including time while passing in the hallways to the next class); during lunch. Cell phones should not be seen or heard from 7:15 AM to 2:05 PM. Cell phones may be used on campus after the final bell (before entering a school bus) and at school events unless otherwise specified. Phones that create a disruption will be confiscated by school officials and returned to the student's parent or guardian. The School Board of Alachua County is not responsible for cellular phones that are damaged, lost, or stolen.

RAPTOR—SECURITY SYSTEM

Parents and visitors, please be aware of the district-wide new security system, Raptor. All visitors must present a government issued photo ID and check-in and out through the front office before visiting other locations during school hours. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but this is for the safety of our children.



Student of the Week

Teachers from each grade level come together on a weekly basis to decide on a student who has exhibited the Mustang Path of Success: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Ready to Learn. One student from each grade level is featured on the morning news with Mr. McMillan, where he shares positive characteristics that teachers have noted about the student. All three students receive a certificate signed by Mrs. Bessner. Afterwards, each child takes a picture that is added to the wall of fame outside of the student services' building. We want every student to know they can be noted for their positive behavior. We love celebrating their strengths!

Upcoming Events

Sept 27—Progress Reports Go Home

Oct 6th—UF Homecoming (No School)

Oct 9th—Flu Mist

October 27th— Report Cards Go Home

Oct 30th Make-up Picture Day

Nov 10—Veteran's Day (No School)

Nov 20-24th—Thanksgiving Break

Dec 1st— Progress Report Go Home

Dec 7th Band and Chorus Concert

Club Sponsors and

Coaches

FCA—Mr. Rynning

FFA—Ms. Holder

NJHS—Mrs. Armstrong

SGA—Mr. McMillan

News Crew—Mrs. Bailey

Yearbook—Mrs. Bailey and Ms. White

Volleyball

Coach Bloodsworth (Girls) and
Coach Rynning (Boys)

Basketball

Mr. Spina (Boys)



Colt Corner

The 6th Grade Team is a dedicated group of diverse teachers, that are all committed to your students' success. Organization is our focus. Each teacher is guiding your student through the use of the planner Mebane provided, how to set up and maintain a notebook with dividers, and manage time appropriately. Please aid your student in this effort by checking and initialing your student's planner and helping him/ her straighten or organize his/ her backpack and assignments weekly. In addition, we ask that you continually replace your student's supplies as he or she uses them. Finally, we love Mebane and encourage your student to become actively involved in the culture of our school. Friday is School Spirit Day. Students are encouraged to wear Black and Gold and show their Mustang pride. We are excited about the 2017-2018 school year and appreciate your support!

Bronco Bulletin

Welcome back seventh grade students and parents! We are looking forward to a fruitful year of education with your child! The Seventh Grade Team would like to thank you for a smooth transition into the school year and for the school supplies generously donated to our classrooms! The Seventh Grade team is working hard to promote responsibility and accountability in our students. In order for students to keep track of their work, we expect students to write their classwork and homework assignments in their agendas every day for all class periods. Parents may use this tool to communicate with teachers and learn what your child should be working on at home. Students also have access to several of their textbooks online via the Edutone website. We believe that with a combination of parental support and your child's hard work and dedication, we will all have a successful year at Mebane. Please do not hesitate to contact us via email or school phone with any questions or concerns. We hope you have a great school year!

Stallion Station

On behalf of the eighth grade team, I would like to express our excitement at the start of another school year. Our primary objective as the eighth-grade team is to ensure that your child will leave middle school equipped with the skills necessary to begin a successful high school career. Therefore, this year will be challenging for your child, but the desired result of an organized and internally-motivated student will be well worth it. As we begin this journey together, please remember that the high school recommendation that your child receives from his or her teachers is based on academic performance for the entire year. Also, most of the eighth-grade teachers are using remind.com to text reminders to students and parents concerning upcoming assignments. If you still haven't signed up, I encourage you to do so on the website. Go Stallions!



A LETTER FROM OUR PTO PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 2017-2018 School year! My name is Marty Anderson, I am your Mebane PTSA President. The Mebane PTO has changed to a PTSA (Parent, Teacher, Student Association), This year students can join and become members of our organization. We will also be selecting one student from our 8th, 7th, and 6th grade classes to sit on the Mebane PTSA Board. Everyone is welcome to our meetings the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Parent's and Student's please join our group and let's all support our wonderful school.

Mebane PTSA 2017-2018 Board

President- Marty Anderson

Vice President- Traci Lofing

Treasurer- Margaret Karrh

Secretary- Alice Bryan

Membership Chair- Alison Kinney

Teacher Rep- Melissa Armstrong

Principal- Manda Bessner

Assistant Principal- Dr. Melissa Pratto

Thanks for your support
Marty Anderson

Mebane Middle School PTSA Membership Form

Dear Parents/Teachers/Students

On behalf of Mebane Middle School PTA, we would like to invite you to join the Parent/Teacher/Student Association (PTSA). The PTA is a Parent/Teacher and Student group that works to enhance the education of our children, by assisting teachers and school staff in raising funds, volunteering to support the numerous activities, events and teacher request during the school year. Through PTSA involvement, you will have a stronger connection to your child's school and be more in the know about all the activities, events and educational programs that take place.



All year long we provide support for many activities which directly benefit students, teachers and parents. We invite you to join today.

PTSA membership dues are \$6.00 per family. (Money collected will support National, State, and Mebane PTSA).

Please make checks payable to Mebane PTSA and return the bottom portion with your check to the front office.

Your support is greatly appreciated. Let's make it a great year together and give our students a gift that last.... your involvement!

Thank you for your support!

of  Please clip and return to the front office 

PLEASE PRINT

Parent /Guardian/Student Name(s) _____

Date _____

Parent /Guardian/Student Name(s) _____ Date _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____ Cell Phone () _____

Email Address (es) _____

Contact preference: _____ Email _____ Mail _____ Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Student(s) Name _____ Students Grade _____

Student(s) Name _____ Students Grade _____

Student(s) Name _____ Students Grade _____

I have enclosed \$6.00 for the annual membership. _____ Yes _____ No

Just keep me informed via e-mail for volunteer opportunities. _____ Yes _____ No

I'm interested in helping with: _____ Fundraisers _____ Teacher Appreciation _____ Box Tops _____ Social Events

Thank You For Your Support

**SCHOOL CALENDAR
2017 - 2018**

Monday, August 7 – Friday, August 11	Pre-Planning (5 weekdays)
Monday, August 14	First Day for Students
Monday, September 4.....	Holiday - Labor Day
Wednesday, September 20.....	Send Interim Reports Home
Friday, October 6.....	Holiday – UF Homecoming
Tuesday, October 17	End of First Nine Weeks
Friday, October 20	Teacher Workday/Pupil Holiday
Friday, October 27	Send Report Cards Home
Friday, November 10	Holiday – Veterans Day
Monday, November 20 - Tuesday, November 21	Pupil/Teacher Holidays
Wednesday November 22 – Friday November 24	Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday, December 1	Send Interim Reports Home
* Monday, December 18 – Tuesday, December 19.....	Flex Day/Pupil/Teacher Holiday
Wednesday, December 20 – Tuesday, January 2	Winter Holidays (10 weekdays)
Wednesday, January 3	Classes Resume
Friday, January 12.....	End of First Semester
Monday, January 15	Holiday - ML King Day
Tuesday, January 16	Pupil Holiday / Teacher Workday
Wednesday, January 17.....	Begin Second Semester
Thursday, January 25	Send Report Cards Home
Wednesday, February 21	Send Interim Reports Home
Wednesday, March 21	End of Third Nine Weeks
Monday, March 26 - Friday, March 30.....	Spring Holidays (5 weekdays)
* Monday, April 2.....	Teacher Workday/Pupil Holiday
Monday, April 9.....	Send Report Cards Home
Thursday, May 3.....	Send Interim Reports Home
Monday, May 28	Holiday - Memorial Day
Friday, June 1.....	Last Day for Students
Monday, June 4.....	Post-Planning
Tuesday, June 5	Post-Planning

* These days **MAY** be used to make up days cancelled due to hurricanes or other emergencies.
For the 2017-18 calendar, they will be used in the following order:

(1) December 18 (2) December 19 (3) April 2



Keep up with your child's education with Skyward

Over the summer the district transitioned student information systems from Infinite Campus to Skyward. If you had Parent Portal while using Infinite Campus you should have received an email in July about your Skyward Family Access.

Family Access will allow you to access your child's classes, view grades, test scores, health information, and discipline. If you did not receive this email or you would like to get Family Access, please call or visit the front office Monday through Friday from 7:30 am – 3:00 pm and ask for Ms. Amber Kelley. You will need to have an ID along with a valid email address.

2017-2018 Policies

We ask that no students be checked out of school during the last 30 minutes of the school day (1:35-2:05).

A "Stay in the Stable" time has been established for the 2017-2018 school year. This means that students are not permitted to leave classrooms except for emergencies during the first and last five minutes of each class period. These times are crucial for review and reflection of classroom content.

The tardy policy is as follows:

First and Second tardies are verbal warnings and are marked in Infinite Campus. On the third tardy, parent contact will be made, and will result in a reduction in the student conduct grade. The fourth and beyond tardy will result in a discipline referral.



Bell Schedule

7:45 Warning Bell

7:50-8:38 1st Period

8:42-9:25 2nd Period

9:29-10:12 3rd Period

A Lunch

B Lunch

10:15-10:56

10:16-10:59

4th Period

4th Period

11:00-11:43

11:03-11:43

11:47-12:30 5th Period

12:34-1:17 6th Period

1:21-2:05 7th Period



MIDDLE SCHOOL Volleyball 2016

Games begin at 4:00 pm/**Boys play first**

Monday, September 11th Mebane @ High Springs	Wednesday, September 13th Ft. Clarke @ Mebane
Monday, September 18th Mebane @ Hawthorne	Wednesday, September 20th Kanapaha @ Mebane
Monday, September 25th Mebane @ Lincoln	Wednesday, September 27th Bishop @ Mebane
Monday, October 2nd Mebane @ Westwood	Monday, October 9th Oak View @ Mebane
Wednesday, October 11th High Springs @ Mebane	Monday, October 16th Mebane @ Oak View

TOURNAMENT

(teams seeded 1-9)

#8 & #9 seeded teams' play-in game: Monday, October 23rd

QUARTER Finals: Wednesday, October 25th

SEMI Finals: Monday, October 30th

FINALS: Wednesday, November 1st



STUDENT DRESS CODE

You are expected to dress for school and school activities in a way that contributes to your health and safety, promotes a positive school learning environment and does not disrupt the events and activities of the school.

General Dress Code Requirements

The general dress code applies to all students at school and to all students while attending school-sponsored activities after the regular school day.

- A. Clothing must be the appropriate size for you, not to be oversized or undersized. The waist of the garment shall be worn so that the waistband worn at the waist and not below the waist. You may not wear baggy/saggy pants.
- B. Shirts/blouses/dresses must cover the midriff, back, and sides at all times and should be fastened with no visible cleavage or undergarments.
- C. Shorts/skirts/jumpers/skorts/dresses shall be worn no shorter than "mid-thigh". Mid-thigh is determined by extending the arms to the sides of the body and finding the tip of the longest finger (using normal posture)
- D. In addition to the above basic uniform, the principal may designate more restrictive dress code requirements, if approved by the school's SAC.

Exceptions

- A. You may wear special clothing necessary for a school-sponsored activity, as permitted by the principal.
- B. If you are enrolled in a career academy, you may wear the uniform of that program.
- C. The Superintendent, in consultation with the principal, may waive the dress code policy on a case-by-case basis for reasons such as, but not limited to, medical necessity or sincerely held religious belief.
- D. Shoes must be safe and appropriate. You may not wear bedroom slippers or shoes with wheels. Elementary students only, must wear shoes that are closed-toed and closed-hell and/or athletic shoes; you may not wear platforms, sandals, flip flops, crocs or jellies.
- E. Outer Garments: You may wear coats, jackets, sweatshirts, sweaters, or other appropriate outer garments when necessary due to weather conditions or for other legitimate reasons. The outer garments must be of the appropriate size for you and shall not be overly baggy or violate any other provisions of the dress code.



Prohibitions

- A. Clothing that is not properly fastened;
- B. Clothing, hair styles, piercings, jewelry, or accessories that are dangerous to the health and safety of yourself or others, or are distracting or disruptive to the orderly learning environment;
- C. Clothing that exposes undergarments or body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner;
- D. Clothing that is unlined sheer or unlined lace;
- E. Clothing that is form fitting, unless proper outer garments are worn over top of it;
- F. Visible undergarments, sleepwear or outer garments traditionally designed as undergarments such as boxer shorts, or bras;
- G. Clothing, including outer garments or accessories (such as backpacks, jewelry, and purses) which have slogans, signs, images, or symbols that :
- H. Hats, bandannas, sweat bands, headgear, or other head coverings, inside the school building, except when approved by the principal/designee;
- I. Combs, curlers, or hair picks; or
- J. Sunglasses inside the school building.



Mebane Middle School

16401 NW 140 Street

Alachua, FL 32615