



MOUNTAIN CREST
parent organization

FALL NEWSLETTER • ISSUE 15

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MCPO MISSION STATEMENT

Promoting partnership between
parents, teachers, students,
administrators, and the greater
Mountain Crest High School
(MCHS) community to create and
support an environment where
MCHS students can learn, grow,
and succeed.

*photo courtesy:
Allie Latimer*



WELCOME BACK: SUNRISE ON ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR!

Mountain Crest Class of 2024 Gathers at Annual Senior Sunrise

Upcoming Events

MC Marching Band USU Invitational:

Saturday, September 30, USU Maverick Stadium

Swim Team Tryouts: October 2, 3:30 pm

Cross Country Regionals: October 4

Picture Retakes: October 4

All-State Choir: October 5 - 7

1st Round State Soccer: October 4

Last Home Football Game/Senior Night: October 6

Cow Chip Bingo! October 6, 5:30 @ football game

MCPO Teacher Luncheon: October 9, to help: Email Michelle Bundy bundymich@gmail.com or call 435.245.7756

Parent Teacher Conference: October 9, Noon - 6 pm

Boo to Flu: October 9, 3-6 pm at MC

Boys State Golf: October 11 & 12

Fall Break: October 12 - 13

Scary Movie Assembly: October 18

CCSD Bond Parent Night: October 25, 6:30-7:30 pm, Cafeteria

PSAT TEST: October 19, 7:30 am

Soccer State Finals & Football 1st Round:

October 20

Volleyball 1st Round: October 21

Orchestra Concert: October 24

Band Concert: October 25

State Volleyball: October 25 - 26

Sadie's Dance: October 28, 8 - 11 pm, MC Commons Area

Haunted Hallway: October 30 & 31

Thank you!

A big thank you to MCHS parents who've done so much already this year for our school. Let's keep it going!

Join us! Complete the volunteer form below and help as much or little as you'd like.



What does MCPO do?

Senior grad party
Lunchtime activities
Student of the Month
Teacher + Staff Spotlights
Homecoming parade
Teacher appreciation+luncheons
Mental Health Week
Information & Social Media:

Instagram

@ MTNcrest_parentorganization

-or-

Facebook
MC PO

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Ready or Not, Here We Are!

Maybe it was the long winter we experienced, maybe it was the colder-than-normal June, but whatever it was, the 2023 school year seemed to creep up on us and here we are in October! We're already looking forward to parent teacher conferences and looking back on a successful homecoming week. What a year it's been, and we've got a lot in store.

Mountain Crest Parent Organization (MCPO) volunteers have already been hard at work for our amazing teachers, staff, and students. We volunteer because we LOVE Mountain Crest! Thank you to all the volunteers who provided a luncheon before school started for our teachers, checked in students at freshmen orientation, helped with homecoming activities, and even painted faces before football games. Thank you!

Please join us in our efforts to make MC the best it can be, because our students and teachers -- our community deserves the best.

How can you help?

- Make a \$10 family donation to MCPO via venmo (@MountainCrest-ParentOrganization) and get our weekly email full of school happenings and information.
- Visit our website to see what we're about and sign up under the "Involved" column: <https://mcparentorganization.weebly.com/>
- Support MCPO's upcoming fundraiser (see side bar).

We need YOU! It takes everyone working together to help our students be successful. Here's to a memorable 2023-2024 school year!

Audrey

Cow Chip what?



While creating the budget for this year, we came up short and need to have a MCPO fundraiser. Our goal is never to be a fundraising organization, but just have enough funds to operate. This year we're teaming up with Riley and Annie Haviland of R&A Cattle for Cow Chip BINGO!

At 5:30 pm before the home football game on Friday, October 6th, there'll be a grid area on the grass near the south side of the swimming pool. Banjo the cow will wander the grid and whichever spot Banjo poops on will win half the pot (up to \$1000)!

We hope this will become a fun tradition! A HUGE thanks to the Havilands and Banjo!

Purchase squares for \$10 each during lunch, sporting events, or send a Venmo noting "Cow Chip Fundraiser" in the comment.

Our VENMO is @MountainCrest-ParentOrganization



Booster Club Apparel and Memberships Available

Booster apparel is available for sale at home football games in the Swag Shack under the bleachers (moving inside through the winter)!

We have plenty of cooler weather gear available as fall moves in ...crew necks, hoodies, blankets, ear bands, ponchos, hand warmers, umbrellas and ponchos.

We are still selling Booster memberships as well. Save money on watching your athlete while supporting all the teams at the same time!

MC Homecoming from a Student Perspective: "The Start of Something New"

By MC Student Isabelle Rogers, Academic Representative

Homecoming 2023 (Septemeber 11 - 16) was a huge success. Our theme, "The Start of Something New" was a tribute to the new school year, a new beginning for a lot of freshmen and their start of high school and the seniors getting ready to start the next chapter of their lives.

The activities of the week were a success because of the high participation and amazing students supporting our royalty, our powderpuff and volley bros teams, and just being ready for the dance! Because homecoming week is so inclusive and there's so much for everybody to participate in, it's really the best week of the school year that everyone looks forward to no matter what part of school you are more involved in.

The crowning event was definitely the football game and dance, as we were able to get most of the student section to participate in the chalk fight, we had our game ball delivered by helicopter, and we had amazing performances by our band, cheer, and Caprielles during half time. The royalty topped it all off by starting a cheer with the student section and getting everyone hyped for the blowout game against Logan.

The dance, while there was some difficulty with the DJ, was a huge success, and the decorations were amazing, and everyone who came seemed to have an amazing time! Overall a huge success!

Thank you MC Representatives who work hard to plan homecoming!

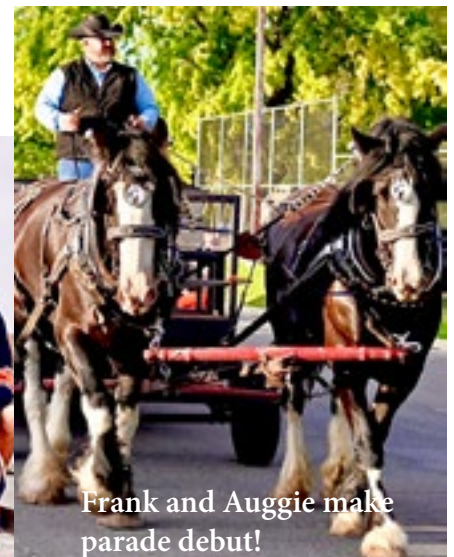


Mason Geary and Anna Bindrup, Homecoming King and Queen

See more photos from Mountain Crest's Homecoming on the back page!



Student Government at Parade



Frank and Auggie make parade debut!



Counselor Corner

1. Seniors: Apply for College!

Utah College Application Month is in October. Mountain Crest has created a document called the “College Guide” that can assist parents and students as they navigate applying for college and scholarships. See the link to the document below. In this document there are waiver codes to apply to colleges, dates on when colleges will be at MC to help with applications, scholarship link, and steps to complete the FAFSA.

Mountain Crest Counseling Website link:

MCCOUNSELING.WEEBLY.COM

Scholarship link on website, see “scholarship page”

College Guide Links:

[College Guide](#) (English), [College Guide](#) (Spanish)

2. ACT Test.

We encourage Seniors who would like to retake the ACT again, to sign up! The next National ACT test date is October 28th. The late registration deadline for this ACT test is October 6. This is the last opportunity to take the National ACT for USU (as well as UofU, BYU, and SUU) admissions. USU’s Academic Scholarship deadline is due Dec. 1st. Register at act.org

-MCHS COUNSELORS

MCCOUNSELING.WEEBLY.COM

**Mark Your calendars for Mountain
Crest Theatre’s production of
Rodgers + Hammerstein’s Cinderella!**

November 9,10,11,13 @ 7pm

November 11 @ 2 pm

MCHS Auditorium





Throughout the school year the MCPO will spotlight teachers, staff, and administration to thank them for all they do for Mountain Crest High School (MCHS) students! They are a KEY part of who helps create the atmosphere at Mountain Crest and so many of them go above and beyond what is required of them because they love students and love what they do! It takes many people to run a school and we are grateful for everyone who helps Mountain Crest be a great place!

This month MCPO recognizes some of MCHS's amazing teachers:

Nathan Demonja and Katherine Lucero.



NATHAN DEMONJA

– English Teacher

I am an English teacher at Mountain Crest (MC) and I afflict children by means of grammatical and rhetorical torture devices. I am a middle-aged child-man who may or may not use superhuman abilities to defend all civilization through the night. In my stretchy-pants...just for fun.

The thing I find the most rewarding about my job is finding the happy nerd in each student shining from beneath the veneer of cool we all have to wear. Also free food in the break room.

Why is Mr. DeMonja so awesome according to the MC community?

– “He truly cares about his students and is a fantastic teacher.”

– “He’s a funny guy who loves what he does!!”



KATHERINE LUCERO

– Math Teacher and Math Department Head

I am a math teacher and the math department head at Mountain Crest (MC). I teach mostly freshmen and sophomores. I started teaching in the Alpine School District, then moved to Ames, Iowa for a couple of years. This is my 23rd year in Cache County School District. I am the youngest of 5 children and both of my parents worked in education. I am married to Eli Lucero- a photojournalist for the Herald Journal. We have 2 boys. The youngest is here at MC.

I love the outdoors – hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, and skiing. My family LOVES Beaver Mountain!

Why is Mrs. Lucero amazing according to the MC community?

– “She runs a disciplined classroom.”

– “She is really good at getting kids to understand the concepts.”



photo credit:
Jaycee Osborne

Mustangs of the Month

Mustangs of the Month is a monthly student-of-the-month program created by MCPO to recognize the amazing students at Mountain Crest High School (MCHS).

Cache Valley Bank is the generous sponsor of Mustangs of the Month. We are grateful this local community bank supports and recognizes our Mountain Crest students. Thank you Cache Valley Bank!

The MCPO is looking forward to another year of recognizing outstanding students!

How does it work?

Teachers nominate students based on various lanes of achievement and outstanding character. The goal is to provide encouragement and elevate awareness of the many outstanding and hard-working MCHS students.

Criteria for nominating a student include, but are not limited to:

- Significant progress in the classroom
- Marked improvement in grades
- Outstanding grades
- Leadership
- Notable consideration towards others
- Outstanding attitude/disposition
- Community involvement/service
- Personal development
- Exemplary character
- Individual achievement

Process:

1. One student from each grade is chosen by an objective panel.
2. Award recipients are honored and receive CASH awards.
3. Names and bios are posted on MCPO social media, newsletters, the school display case, and at Cache Valley Bank.

Get to Know Our New Administration:

“Together We Can Be The Difference! Every day - Every Person - Whatever it Takes!”



Left to right: Darren Perkes, Tom Williams, and Denise Mouritsen

By Wendy Osborne

We are excited to have Denise, Darren, and Tom as our new Mountain Crest High School (MCHS) Administration! We can't wait to see all they can do, but we need to remember they can't do it alone. Let's show them what this Mountain Crest community is about!

Denise Mouritsen is our new Principal at Mountain Crest! Although she has worked for Cache County School District (CCSD) for nineteen years, and seven of those years have been in administration at MC, she started teaching and working in Special Education (mild/moderate) and worked at White Pine, Spring Creek, South Cache, and Ridgeline.

Denise loves what she does! She enjoys helping students feel successful and wants to help them become problem solvers. When asked what a typical day is like for her, she said, "Craziness, but good craziness! Always busy with students, parents, or teachers!"

On things she wishes students knew, is just how much teachers really do care!

One of her favorite memories from high school is how fun it was to be involved.

Two things Denise would like to share that she thinks

would help us as a school and a school community to help create a positive culture:

1. Build relationships & Smile
2. Be the Difference! Everyday! Every Person! Whatever it Takes!

What is the first thing Denise does when she gets home from work? She takes her shoes off!!

Darren Perkes is our new Assistant Principal! Darren started teaching at Box Elder Middle School and then taught English, French, & Drivers Ed for 18 years at Sky View. When Green Canyon was finished, he taught there for the past four years and also worked part time for CCSD as an Instructional Coach.

Darren said he decided to become a teacher because being a dentist didn't work out :) HA!HA!HA! Actually he used to have dreams about teaching and what would make a great classroom experience and he also gives credit to his high school English teacher. When asked what a typical day as an administrator is like, he said, "READY. SET. GO! I work with great people, and I have to be ready for anything that could happen...and I mean anything!"

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“Never lose the emphasis that everything we do should be for the kids and helping them be successful!”

*- Tom Williams,
MC Assistant Principal*

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Something he would tell his high school self is that everyone has a story, take the time to figure out those stories. “Don’t judge. Get curious!”

What does Darren think would help create a positive culture in our school and school community?:

1. Focus more on what we can control & work on building positive relationships! We can accomplish so much more if we have great relationships!
2. Don’t judge. Get curious! We need to take the time to find out each others stories!

When Darren gets home from work, the first thing he does is have a snack and take a short nap so he’s prepared to head back for the night activities at the school!

Tom Williams is our new Assistant Principal! He has been working for CCSD for twelve years, and ALL twelve years have been at Mountain Crest. Tom has taught History, Government, and Spanish. He also coached the swim team and track.

Tom parents were teachers, so becoming a teacher just seemed like a natural fit, and he gets along well with young people. As an administrator a typical day for him is interacting with students and teachers, going to sporting

events, and putting out any “fires.”

He hopes that the students enjoy high school, because when it’s over you don’t get that care-free, fun, social time back!

Some of his favorite memories from high school are winning a State Championship in Swimming & singing in Carnegie Hall in NYC with his school choir!

Tom’s two suggestions for creating a positive culture at our school and in our school community are:

1. Never lose the emphasis that everything we do should be for the kids and helping them be successful!
2. GET INVOLVED! and HAVE FUN!

What is the first thing Tom does when he gets home from work? He plays with his kids!

Thank you MC Administrators. We look forward to a great year!

“It’s a Stang Thang!”



Custodian Holly Liechty awarding “Stang Thang” student Tag Petersen.

As part of Mountain Crest’s vision this year to “Be The Difference! Every day. Every person. Whatever it takes,” staff members at MC are on the lookout for students quietly doing good. When a student is “caught” doing something kind, helpful, positive, or influential, the student meets with the administration and staff member who chose to celebrate them doing a “Stang Thang.” The student receives a t-shirt that only students earning this recognition can receive and a big THANK YOU! MC is full of amazing students, and we can’t wait to celebrate!

Staff members and student recipients so far this year:

- Amalia Johnson to Nate McBride**
- Wendy McBride to Ayden Sorensen**
- Clair Carr to Brandon Arteaga**
- Julene Olsen to Mercedes Gardner**
- Jared Leishman to Trey Cooper**
- Holly Liechty to Tag Peterson**
- Ryan Cooper to Ada McBride**
- Stephanie Hansen to Brigham Sadler**

Good News at MC!

Email tarabone@msn.com when you see positive MC happenings - we want to share the good news!

MC’s Marching Band Wins ... Again!

Recently Mountain Crest’s Marching Band followed up on last year’s Division 4A Championship with another 1st place finish in the 4A Open Class Division at the Oquirrh Mountain Invitational at Herriman High School. They also took the caption awards for Color Guard, Music and Visual at the Invitational. Congratulations!



This Saturday, September 30, MC’s Marching Band hosts their annual home competition at Utah State University’s Maverick Stadium. Band representative Katie Mackelprang says, “We would love to have a ton of Mustang fan support!!”

Come cheer on the Mustangs and enjoy amazing performances. Green Canyon performs at 11:45a, Ridgeline 2:30p, Mountain Crest at 4:00p and Sky View at 4:15p. Good luck Mustangs!

Soccer Success for MC Unified Team

In September, both of Mountain Crest’s Special Olympics Unified Soccer teams kicked off their season with first place finishes in their divisions at the area tournament. They wish to say ‘thank you’ to all who came to support them. Way to go Mustangs!

You can follow the MC Unified team on Instagram @mc.unified



MC's Mountain Biking Team Achieves 1st Place in Division 3 at Snowbasin Competition

By Head Coach Teresa Parker; Russell Farnsworth, Team Director



We have an incredible mountain biking team. The team's dedication and commitment to bettering themselves are evident. The praise I hear about each one of them is testament to their unique abilities. It's rare to find people with their level of physical, emotional, and mental prowess. In any given race, the team faces many challenges of the course - steep climbs, unpredictable terrains, and extreme weather. But recently the team has overcome challenges and took first place at Snowbasin. The team was strong at Beaver Mountain as well. Here's a recap:

Varsity Boys - Kudos to Kaden Bundy and Dallin Painter. Kaden's race was outstanding, finishing 6th in varsity! And despite Dallin's equipment malfunction, he showcased true grit at Beaver Mountain. Kaden and Dallin both performed well at Snowbasin. These two have the longest hardest race as varsity riders. Their performance is stellar and are truly amazing athletes.

JVA Girls - Sierra Maughan and Maddie Woolstenhulme had very solid races. The unexpected weather was a setback, they both finished strong at Beaver

Team Achievements

Top Ten at Beaver Mountain:

Carson Douglass: 1st; Andrew Skinner: 5th; Jane Clawson: 3rd; Kaden Bundy: 6th; Jonah Greer: 6th; Miles Erickson: 6th; Sierra Maughan: 7th; Maddie Woolstenhulme: 9th; Logan Worf: 10th

Top Ten at Snowbasin:

Carson Douglass: 1st; Andrew Skinner: 5th; Jane Clawson: 3rd; Jonah Greer: 2nd; Kaden Bundy 10th

Mountain and Snowbasin. These two girls are tough as nails out on the course.

JVA Boys - Brigham Skinner is one to keep an eye on. He is tough. He raced all but 20 feet (due to a wreck) with a broken bike and had an impressive finish.

JVB Girls - Kenya Skinner had a great first race on the season.

JVC Boys - Logan Worf, Korbin McDowell, Jake Brandt, Mason Murdock, and Carson Aston. These guys raced strong and showed true grit. They race in the biggest Junior Varsity Group. Carson moved up 20 plus spots during the race. These guys are all fighting hard to qualify for State.

JVD Boys - Jonah Greer, Nathan Jewks, and Alex Sowby - these teens crushed it. Jonah pulled off a strong second place.

SLR Girls - Amelia Allen - rode hard in her first race.

Freshman Girls: Emily Farnsworth is really doing well this year and freshman Boys Spencer Datwyler and Jaxton Leishman had strong finishes.

We are very proud of the team and all their efforts.

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Mountain Crest Parent Organization
mcparentorganization.weebly.com

GO MUSTANGS!

Game schedule and athletic updates:
mcmustangs.com

Mountain Crest High School
ccsdut.org/mountaincrest

Newsletter design and production by
The Unburden Studio & Tara Bone.

**If you have a good news
tip or a submission for the
MCPO newsletter, email
tarabone@msn.com
Thank you!**



2023 MC Homecoming Memories: "The Start of Something New"

