



MHSD NEWSLETTER

A quarterly newsletter brought to you by the Mountain Home School District Office.

BACK TO SCHOOL, 2019

08/16/2019

Welcome Back!



I would like to welcome all of you to the new school year! The start of a new year is always filled with excitement! I hope you had a great summer and made many happy memories with your families. Over the summer our staff kept very busy getting ready for the school year. We had many staff members participate in professional development opportunities over the summer. This professional development will provide additional opportunities for our students.

In May, we were awarded a two-year grant through the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI). NMSI's mission is to advance STEM education to ensure all students, especially those furthest from opportunity, to be able to thrive and reach their highest potential as problem solvers and lifelong learners who pursue their passions and tackle the world's toughest challenges. One of their goals is to increase rigor in all classrooms to better prepare students for their post-secondary training, which perfectly aligns with one of our district's goals.

This two-year grant is providing the following items:

- Allowing us to add three new AP classes at MHHS: AP Biology, AP Environmental Science, and AP Computer Science.
- In July, 34 educators from the Mountain Home School District were able to attend a training in Dallas, TX. Teachers participated in College Readiness Program, Laying the Foundation for 3rd -12th grade teachers, Computer Science Principles, and a Leadership Summit. Teachers reported that this was some of the best professional development they have had, and there was no cost to the district.
- The grant will provide 3 Saturday study sessions for students enrolled in AP classes and will be led by national AP experts.
- Provides funding to purchase new lab equipment and other needed supplies for these new classes.
- Will pay any student \$100 who receives a qualifying score of 3, 4, or 5 on the AP exam the next two years.
- Will cover the expense of sending up to 50 teachers to the NMSI training next summer.

Because we were awarded this grant late in the school year, these new AP classes weren't listed in the student planner. If your child is interested in taking any of these new classes at Mountain Home High School, please contact your child's counselor.

You may have noticed some construction going on around a few of the buildings. We re-shingled the roofs at East Elementary and Mountain Home Junior High. Both projects are being completed through our insurance, as the repairs were necessitated by wind damage to both roofs. These new roofs should provide several decades of protection for those buildings. We are also fixing some drainage issues at the junior high that have caused the gym to flood during heavy rain. We are running utility lines to the track so that construction of a bathroom facility can begin in the spring. With the completion of 18th street, the flow of traffic around the junior high should be much smoother. In addition to the other district projects, there were several painting and flooring projects completed throughout the district, as well.

Finally, I would like to encourage you to work closely with your children's teachers and school staff. The research is clear that the more involved parents are in their child's education the more successful the child is at school. Help build those positive relationships with teachers and staff. Be involved and willing to do your part as a parent. I assure you our amazing staff will do their part to make this year a great year for your child. If you have any questions please feel free to e-mail me at gilbert_jg@mtnhomesd.org or call me at (208) 587-2580. I am here to help! Respectfully,

James Gilbert

Superintendent
Mountain Home School District #193