



Madera South High School

November 2023

A Message From The Principal

Dear Madera South High School Families,

The months of October, November, and December bring many holidays to celebrate. It is worth reminding all of us that EL Principle 1 asks us to celebrate the many different cultures our students bring with them. This culture can include the celebration of holidays, such as Dia De Los Muertos, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Kwanza, Hanukkah, Christmas, and many more. But in addition to holiday celebrations, and perhaps more importantly, the day-to-day culture, things that are deeply meaningful to our students, we all should be working diligently to celebrate with our students. This can come in the form of lessons and activities that tap into student interests, working with a student to help them overcome a fear or anxiety, taking extra time to help a student work through an issue with another student, or highlighting a student's accomplishments with others by posting it in your classroom.

As we head into the last two months of the first semester, our hope is that every student feels that their culture is valued at Madera South. Additionally, we hope that each student has at least one member of our staff with whom they feel connected. Students have been completing the Panorama survey. Our hope is that the results of the survey will recognize that our staff truly values our students, and moreover, a better sense of belonging to each and every person on our campus. And if the results do not reflect that, we will adjust and continue to find ways to help everyone feel more engaged and connected with our site and staff.

Along the same lines of celebration, we want to celebrate the students who are getting to class on time. For students who have three tardies or less from November 1-17, they will be treated to a mini-grubdown as we head into Thanksgiving Break. We know how much tardies disrupt instruction and contribute to student struggles academically, so we are hoping this positive behavior intervention will spur some real change.



Best regards,

Jon Steinmetz

Coming Soon

- October 31: BooFest w/ Alpha Elementary, East Gym, 8:30-12:30
- November 3: MUSD Band Night, Stallion Stadium, 6:30-8:30
- November 7: School Site Council Meeting, Room 102/103, 4:00-5:00 PM
- November 7: PIQE, "Principal's Dialogue", Media Center 6:00-7:00 PM
- November 9: Grubdown, 12:00-1:00
- November 9: Fall Theatre Production Opening Night
- November 13-17: MSHS Week of Gratitude
- November 14: PIQE Graduation, Cafeteria, 6:00-7:00 PM
- November 15: MUSD District Day of Service
- November 15: Stallion Honor Society Field Trip: SJV Town Hall
- November 17: Parent Listening Session, Media Center, 7:30-8:00 AM
- November 17: Freshmen Rally
- November 20-24: Thanksgiving Break, No School

Student Highlight | Quarter 1 Student Champions



9th Grade, Liyah Chavira



10th Grade, Saray Madriz Alcaraz



11th Grade, Juan Garcia



12th Grade, Alayja Hall

Staff Highlight | John Hansen, Intervention Specialist



What is your most memorable student support experience?

I would have to say my most memorable experience currently has to be when I was working for Visalia Unified as a Substitute School Counselor. I was at Sequoia High School, a continuation high school within that district working with seniors on their graduation requirements and I had one student who was close but lacked motivation to get things going. Once I met with him and we discussed a detailed plan on how he could get those credits he had a renewed sense of determination. I would check in with him from time to time over the course of the last two months of the school year and discuss his progress. As I assisted with the graduation practice and ceremony I was able to see this young man attend and graduate.

What is your most memorable learning experience?

For my most memorable learning experience, I'd say it has to be coming here to MSHS. I have had to adjust to a new position and it hasn't been easy but it has helped me to get out of my comfort zone a little bit and to collaborate heavily with various staff here at South and throughout the district. I'm still learning as I go but I am definitely willing and ready to take on this position and important work with our students here.

What hobbies or interests do you enjoy?

Some of my hobbies include: Spending time with my family (3 boys, ages 7,4, 2 months) and our dog (dachshund), watching movies, Netflix, and YouTube. I also enjoy playing Pokemon Go with my oldest son. Cooking is another interest and hobby I have both with my wife and just by myself. Especially Japanese food as I used to live there when I was younger. Learning new Japanese recipes and trying them out reminds me of my time spent there.

What is a goal you have for the 2023-24 school year?

My goal for this year is to build a strong rapport with the student body and to be able to be consistent in the interventions I provide whether they are one-on-one counseling sessions or groups. Collaboration is another huge goal for me this 1st year here in building professional relationships with all of you as my fellow colleagues.

Staff Highlight | Colton Hafey, Career Technician



What is your most memorable student support experience?

Assisting a student who was on course to not graduate and on the verge of dropping out of school. But together we changed their mindset and actions, ultimately earning their diploma.

What is your most memorable learning experience?

My most memorable learning experience came from a student. I learned early that not every student learns the same way. I learned that I have to do better at understanding where each student is at and how I can help them become successful.

What hobbies or interests do you enjoy?

One interest is going on hikes with my wife and kids.

What is a goal you have for the 2023-24 school year?

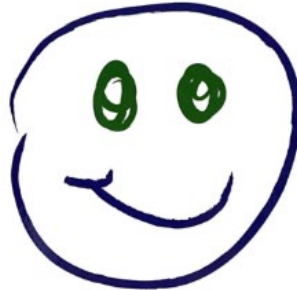
One of my goals for the 2023-24 school year I have is being able to host virtual career nights with relationships I have built through my own professional experiences.

Student Safety-(Text)

Text

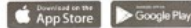


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Health and Wellness

Any medication needed during school hours or during school-sponsored activities or events requires a written order from a physician and written consent from the parent/guardian in order to administer such medication(s). This also includes non-prescription medication such as pain relievers (Ibuprofen/Tylenol), cough drops, and eye drops.

A parent/guardian or other adult must deliver the medication to the school health office where health office staff will check the medication(s) against the physician's order. The amount of medication delivered will then be verified recorded and signed off by both parties. In order for a student to carry and self-administer an Epipen, inhaler, or any other medication this must be explicitly stated in the physician order. Except for inhalers, students may only carry one day's dosage of medication.

Each medication must be in a separate container labeled by a pharmacist licensed in the United States. This applies to non-prescription medication as well. No more than a 30-day supply of medication will be accepted.

The Medication At School Authorization Form can be found on the MUSD website or obtained from the school nurse. A new order for medication at school must be provided each school year or sooner if there are any changes in medication, dosage, frequency of medication, or reason for administration.

For field trips and other off-campus activities please provide physician orders and medication at least 3 school days prior to the trip/activity so that medication and orders can be processed and the necessary school staff attending the trip or event can be trained on medication administration.

All medication should be picked up by the parent/guardian or other adult at the end of the school year. Any medication not picked up will be discarded.

Staff & Student Highlights

Staff & Student Highlight | Mariana Hernandez Honored at the Stallions for a Cure Pink Game



Staff & Student Highlights | FFA



Madera FFA took 24 freshmen to the Greenhand Leadership Conference at Fresno State. They learned about FFA and leadership, their role in the organization, did career exploration, and planned their Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) project.



The FARMS center for land-based learning students attended Summer Peck Ranch in Fresno on Tuesday. Students learned about different careers in agriculture went on a nature walk around the San Joaquin River Parkway and participated in a hands-on learning activity that consisted of dissecting owl pellets and searching and analyzing organisms from the river.

Staff & Student Highlight | GSA Pumpkin Painting

