

Mountain Ridge High School
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News Nugget



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Welcome New MRHS Staff!



Ms. Holly Itzo is a new Special Education Inclusion teacher at Mountain Ridge. She attended the College of St. Joseph (Vermont). Ms. Itzo chose to become an inclusion teacher because it is a helping career, and she wanted to be part of a family of teachers. She's looking forward to getting to know the students and staff of Mountain Ridge and becoming part of it. She says that she prefers teaching older students because she doesn't have enough energy for younger students. An educational goal that she has this year is to be a part of the school community as much as possible. She says that Mountain Ridge has already impacted her life because she has seen the growth of learning this early in the school year, which is rewarding. Ms. Itzo believes the most challenging part of teaching is working with a student who gives up on an assignment when he/she is capable of much more. She hopes after this school year that students will say that she is a teacher who is there to help. —Emily Beck



Mrs. Beth Ternent is Mountain Ridge High School's newest guidance counselor. She has attended high school at Bruce High and then Valley. She earned both her bachelor's and master's degree from Frostburg State University. High school English is where she started her teaching career. She says that she has "always loved to read and write and wanted to share that passion with students." She later realized that a lot of her time was spent guiding students and helping them with personal issues. Therefore, she decided to pursue a degree in school counseling. She says she prefers working with high school students because they are "more in control of their lives and decisions." Mrs. Ternent has worked with elementary students too, and thoroughly enjoyed both. She says, "High school students are on the brink of adulthood, and the choices they make in high school can really have an impact on the rest of their lives." She hopes she can help the students out, guide them positively, and keep them from making destructive decisions. Her goal is simply to reach and help as many students as she can. So far she says that she is "impressed with how friendly and respectful Mountain Ridge students are overall." Even though some days are a challenge, such as handling numerous tasks at the same time, she knows that counselors have many responsibilities, and she likes the variety. She says "I'm looking forward to getting to know the students and being a part of the Mountain Ridge community," and she hopes that the students can say she helped them. —Abbi McKenzie



Mrs. Li Ying is Mountain Ridge's new teacher of Mandarin Chinese and Chinese Culture. She wants to educate students about the Chinese culture and China, in which she has qualified experience, because she attended school in China. When asked why she wanted to work with high-school students, she responded, "Most of them have their own point of view towards life, things, and the world, which might help us get better communication." Already, Mrs. Ying's students have impacted her greatly. She describes them as "well-behaved and self-disciplined, and having great curiosity and passion." A goal she has set for this year is for her and her students to have a better understanding of the Chinese culture and different cultural backgrounds by the end of the school year. She hopes that things will move on smoothly for her. —Savannah Galliher

Dates to Know

- ✗ November 2nd— Close of 1st Marking Period
- ✗ November 3rd— 3 Hour Early Dismissal
- ✗ November 5th—Daylight Savings Time
- ✗ November 9th— NHS Blood Drive
- ✗ November 11th— Veterans Day
- ✗ November 16th— Thanksgiving Lunch
- ✗ November 21st—NHS Induction
- ✗ November 22— 3 Hour Early Dismissal
- ✗ November 23—November 27:
School Closed for Thanksgiving Break



Ms. Shyann Richardson is a new Instructional Assistant at Mountain Ridge High School. She has attended Frankfort High School and Allegany College of Maryland. Shyann is still currently attending college. The most challenging part of teaching so far for her is figuring out how each student learns. She is looking forward to watching the students grow and learn to their best ability. She hopes that after this school year, her students will say that she made some type of a positive influence on their education and on their lives. —Jamie Brehm



Mr. Chad Knippenberg is a new Special Education teacher at Mountain Ridge. He attended school at Fort Hill, Frostburg State University, and John Hopkins. He has always wanted to teach special education because he likes helping others succeed, and he likes making a difference. Mr. Knippenberg enjoys working with high school students because he can help prepare them for life. The students he has worked with at Mountain Ridge are genuine, kind, caring, and have tremendous pride and school spirit. His educational goals for the year are to be the best teacher that he can be and to continue to reflect and make himself better for his students. He would say the most challenging part of his job is balancing time and commitments. He's looking forward to making a difference and enjoying every minute that he has here at Mountain Ridge. He hopes his students will say that he was fair, fun, and consistent! —Gina LaManna



Mrs. Melody McCune is the new School Psychologist this year at Mountain Ridge. She attended school at California University of Pennsylvania for B.A., M.S., and School Psychology Educational Specialist Certificate. She chose to be a psychologist because she wants to be able to help a variety of students meet with educational success. Mrs. McCune enjoys working with high school students because she enjoys guiding them in the direction that is appropriate for their lives after high school. Mountain Ridge students have impacted her greatly. She says, "They are amazing! Many students have been warm and welcoming." Her goal this year is to continue to be able to support students make progress toward their future. Her biggest challenge is finding the matching supports that each student needs to be successful. She is most looking forward to continuing to work with students to better learn how to assist in planning for their future. She hopes students will say that she did care about what their futures hold for them when they leave this school year. —Morgan Sgaggero & Chyler Ravenscroft



Mrs. Phyllis Washington is a new Special Education Inclusion- Emotional Behavior Support teacher at Mountain Ridge this year. She attended Allegany High School, Allegany College, and Frostburg State University. Mrs. Washington chose to be a special education teacher because she enjoys helping students realize that they can be successful, and she loves being able to celebrate with them when they achieve a goal. She has also been an Earth and Environmental Science teacher because of her love of science. She chose to work with high school students because the content is more interesting to her and she feels like she has more insight into high school aged students. The students at Mountain Ridge have impacted Mrs. Washington by not only giving her a challenge, but also by giving her rewarding moments and some good laughs as they learn together. She wants to see her students develop confidence in their ability to learn and succeed in an academic and social setting. Time management seems to be one of her biggest challenges because there is so much to do and so little time to do it. Mrs. Washington hopes her students will say she was able to help them develop a productive attitude toward school and learning. She would also like them to say she made them believe they can do well and have a better life in the future as a result of their efforts at Mountain Ridge. —Jenna Green



Mrs. Barbara Jacobs is a new Special Education Instructional Assistant at Mountain Ridge. She attended Valley High School and Allegany College of Maryland . She decided to work with high school students because she "—wanted a break from elementary." The students at Mountain Ridge have made everyday enjoyable for her so far. This school year, she is most looking forward to seeing the kids in her class graduate. After this school year, she hopes that her students will say that she was there for them when they needed her to be. — Emily Beck

Homecoming Week

During the week of October 9th-13th, Mountain Ridge students celebrated the traditional Homecoming Week. On every day of the week, students are able to show their school spirit and pride by dressing up based on the theme of the day. This year students were able to participate in: Color Wars Day, Twin Day, Character Day, Throwback Thursday (Decade Day), and Go Gold Day! (Spirit Day). Juniors and Seniors were also able to participate in activities during the pep rally that was held on Monday, October 9th in the gymnasium. All of this excitement lead up to the Homecoming football game that was held on Friday, October 13th where the Miners beat the Northern Huskies 24–20. The Homecoming dance was held on Saturday, October 14th. —Jenna Green



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Sports

Winter Sports try-outs will begin November 15th. Please have a physical on file if you are planning to try-out.

As of October 25th the sports records are as follows.

JV Volleyball

11-4

Varsity Volleyball

AMAC

13-1

Girls Varsity Soccer

Tied for AMAC

11-1-2

Girls JV Soccer

11-0

Boys Varsity Soccer

AMAC

10-3

Boy JV Soccer

11-0-3

Varsity Football

4-4

JV Football

1-8

Cross Country

Allegany County Championships
Girls 2nd and Boys 3rd place

Unified Tennis

Placed 3rd in Districts

Golf

AMAC

12-3