

# The MHS Messenger

A monthly, online newsletter to keep our MHS family and residents informed

January 2019



## MHS brings back Mustang Pride Award

A few years ago Mundelein High School discontinued its monthly Mustang Pride awards breakfasts but they have been brought back again by Principal Anthony Kroll and Dean of Students Meghan Bargar. The first recognition breakfast for the students, their parents and nominating staff members was held Thursday, Dec. 13.

Students may be nominated for a number of reasons, both academic and social. Some of those reasons can include acts of kindness, raising a grade or grade point average significantly, tutoring other students, assisting staff members in class and many others.

This December honorees and their nominating staff members include:

Natalie Avalos, nominated by Kelly Schur; Vu Bui, nominated by Cynthia Henrichs; Carolynne Burk, and Jocelyn Chavarria, both nominated by David Greenwood; Kevin Conejo Valerio, nominated by Larry Calhoun; Anish Gadre, nominated by Jenna Lumsden; Neveah Greenlee, nominated by Carsyn Rodriguez; Erick Mendez, nominated by Nicole Pomerleau; Luis Cruz Mesta, nominated by Samantha Rivera and Andrea



*December Mustang Pride Award Winners: **Front Row** (L to R): Morgan Shurtz, Kellie-Anne Shanahan, Jocelyn Chavarria, Carolynne Burk, Nevaeh Greenlee, Natalie Avalos **Back Row** (L to R): Erick Mendez, Luis Cruz Mesta, Anish Gadre, Vu Bui, Kevin Conejo Valerio*

Rusk; Kellie-Anne Shanahan, nominated by Brett Wilhelm; and Morgan Shurtz, nominated by David Mork.

During the breakfast meetings the nominating staff members give a brief introduction of their honorees, stating the reasons for the nomination. Following the awards, the parents of the honorees join their children and staff members to enjoy breakfast together.

The next breakfast will be held Thursday, Jan. 31.

**MUSTANG PRIDE**

# The MHS Messenger

## Partnerships prepare students for future careers

If Fine and Applied Arts Department Chair Larry Calhoun could give one piece of advice to MHS students, it would be “Opportunity is waiting for you with Business Partnerships.” And that is what Calhoun and MHS are actively working on.

Currently, MHS is involved in a formal program with Lake Zurich High School, the College of Lake County, Lake County Partners and the Job Center of Lake County to provide training and education for careers in manufacturing. The program provides students with on-the-job training, skills and experience in preparation for a possible future career in manufacturing and/or to pursue an engineering or industry-related degree.

The program consists of two semesters of work, two class periods each day. During the first semester students attend CLC and earn seven credit hours in Machining Principles, Workplace Professional Skills and Computer Numeric Control [CNC] which means the use of a computer to control the work of machines. During the second semester, students are paid to be “on the job” at one of the participating worksites and learn such things as quality control, welding, laser printing, machine operations, CNC etc. as well as an initiation to the company’s culture.

“Many manufacturing places are finding it hard to replace workers because the jobs were held primarily by “baby boomers” who are beginning to retire.” Calhoun explained. “Students interested in entering this field can start right out of high school and continue to work towards a college degree at the same time.” Calhoun sees this track as a great opportunity for students to be trained in a specific area and begin earning good salaries. “They can also work on their degrees to qualify for higher-level management careers with the same employer.”

A second partnership opportunity for students with Mundelein Business MacLean-Fogg is a two-year commitment where they spend two hours a day two days a week at the business and three days in manufacturing courses at CLC, and then reverse that for the second year. Students engage in a curriculum and learn about product lines, customer relations, quality control and much more.



Each of these programs gives students a look at possible options in career choices such as starting at the business right out of high school and earning a very competitive salary, working and

attending college part time [paid for by the company] and others or earning a four-year degree and then returning to the company to work.

“These are exciting times for students and gives them options not normally available to students while they are still in high school,” Calhoun explained. “We currently have 18 students involved with the MacLean Fogg option and 12 in the MHS/ LZHS,CLC/Lake County Partners program. There is still room

for more students to take part!”

---

**“Many manufacturing businesses are finding it hard to replace workers because the jobs were held for years primarily by ‘baby boomers’ who are beginning to retire.”**

*—Larry Calhoun, Fine and Applied Arts Department Chair*

---

Interested students and parents are encouraged to speak with their counselors and/or with Calhoun for more detailed information. His email is

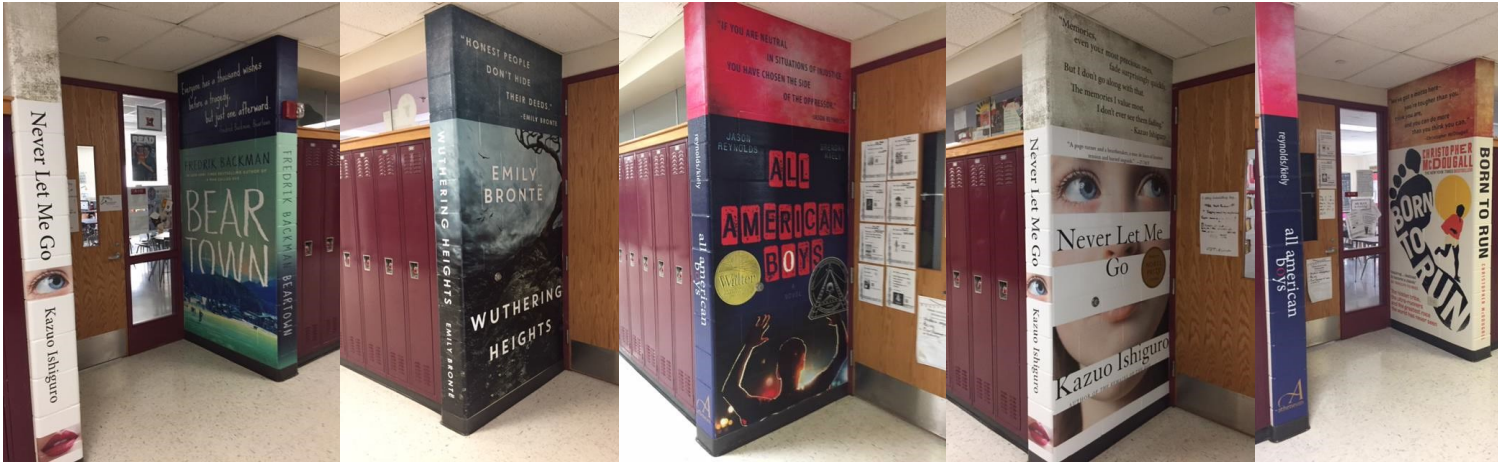
lcalhoun@d120.org and phone is 847.949.2200, Extension 1268.





# The MHS Messenger

## English hallway book covers draw national attention



When students returned to school after the holiday break they were surprised to see some new artwork near several classrooms in the English Department hallway. Floor to ceiling book covers made of vinyl graced the entrances of the classrooms of Ryan Buck, Mike Dayton and Mark Landuyt. Once the story about the project was put on the official MHS Facebook page, it became a national “hit.”

More than 3,000 people “shared” the story from Facebook while another 3,500 “liked” the page. In addition, more than 675 comments were posted, all favorable to the project. Comments were made by teachers and administrators from many US states praising the work and requesting information about the process so they could incorporate it into their own spaces. The BBC in London also shared this.

The three MHS teachers all described the works as ways for students and teachers to start conversations about reading and to share their enthusiasm for the books. The vinyl “wraps” were done during the break by Visual Image Photography [VIP].

## Mayor’s Cup Challenge expands with STEM categories

Mundelein Mayor Steve Lentz began the Mayor’s Cup Math Challenge in 2014 and is now expanding the competition to include elements of STEM [Science, Technology, Engineering and Math]. Elementary, middle and high schools will compete for scholarships donated by local businesses.

Participants will be able to choose from the two categories of math or STEM and then compete for the cash awards, trophies and medals.

The event is slated to be held Sunday, March 17 from



noon to 4 pm. The contest is open to students who attend District 75, Diamond Lake District 76, Fremont District 79, High School District 120 and Carmel Catholic High School. Students who live within MHS boundaries but attend elementary, middle or high school not on the list may also participate. Students will be able to sign up for the Challenge with their math teachers.

According to Lentz, more than \$58,500 in scholarships have been awarded since the inception of the event. Business owners interested in contributing to the scholarship fund are asked to call 847.949.3225.

# The MHS Messenger

## New Adventure course available for next year



Mundelein High School's Wellness Department will offer an Adventure Education course beginning with the 2019-2020 school year provided that enough students sign up to take it. According to Wellness Department Chair, Justin Hart, the course will offer "team building skills, knot tying, high rope

elements, climbing elements and outdoor activities such as shelter building, outdoor cooking and fire building." The class will be one semester in length and open to sophomores, juniors and seniors. The course will also be repeatable.

The course offering description is as follows: Students electing this course will gain knowledge and insight into a variety of initiatives, rope elements and outdoor activities. Many life time and leisure skills will be acquired through active participation in the various units. Through all these experiences, students will gain self-confidence while learning how to trust, cooperate and communicate more effectively with each other.

Wellness instructors Mike Vukovics and Brandon Dart have been developing the actual curriculum for the course. Contact Hart for more specific information at [jhart@d120.org](mailto:jhart@d120.org) or by calling him at 847.949.2200, Extension 1220.

## Shared Services moving toward reality for 2019



*Dr. Andy Henrikson, left;  
Dr. Kevin Myers, right*

With the shared services/shared superintendent model inching toward reality, the boards of education from both Mundelein Elementary District 75 and Mundelein High School District 120 are working closely together to make a smooth transition. For several

months a committee from within the groups has been working with an educational consultant, Dr. Dale Truding, on a formal Declaration for a Shared Service Model for the Superintendent.

"The main purpose for the formal declaration is to create a historical perspective of the process that took place in moving towards this Shared Services/Shared Superintendent Model," Truding explained. "This way, future Board of Education members and Superintendents will know what lead to the arrangement and what it was intended to accomplish," she said.

According to the Declaration, the two Boards of Education seek to uphold and improve public education for the community that will survive beyond their tenure as board members. Specifically, the Declaration says:

- We will build trust and move the districts forward
- We will become an effective team with a common, focused direction
- We will understand our individual roles and collective responsibilities
- We will nurture our environment that supports positive change
- We will explore additional shared services opportunities as they arise

Dr. Kevin Myers will be Superintendent for both districts beginning July 1, 2019 when current D75 Superintendent Andy Henrikson retires from that district.

"This is a great opportunity for our two districts to work closely together and provide an excellent, consistent education for all Mundelein students from Pre-K to high school seniors," Myers said.

