

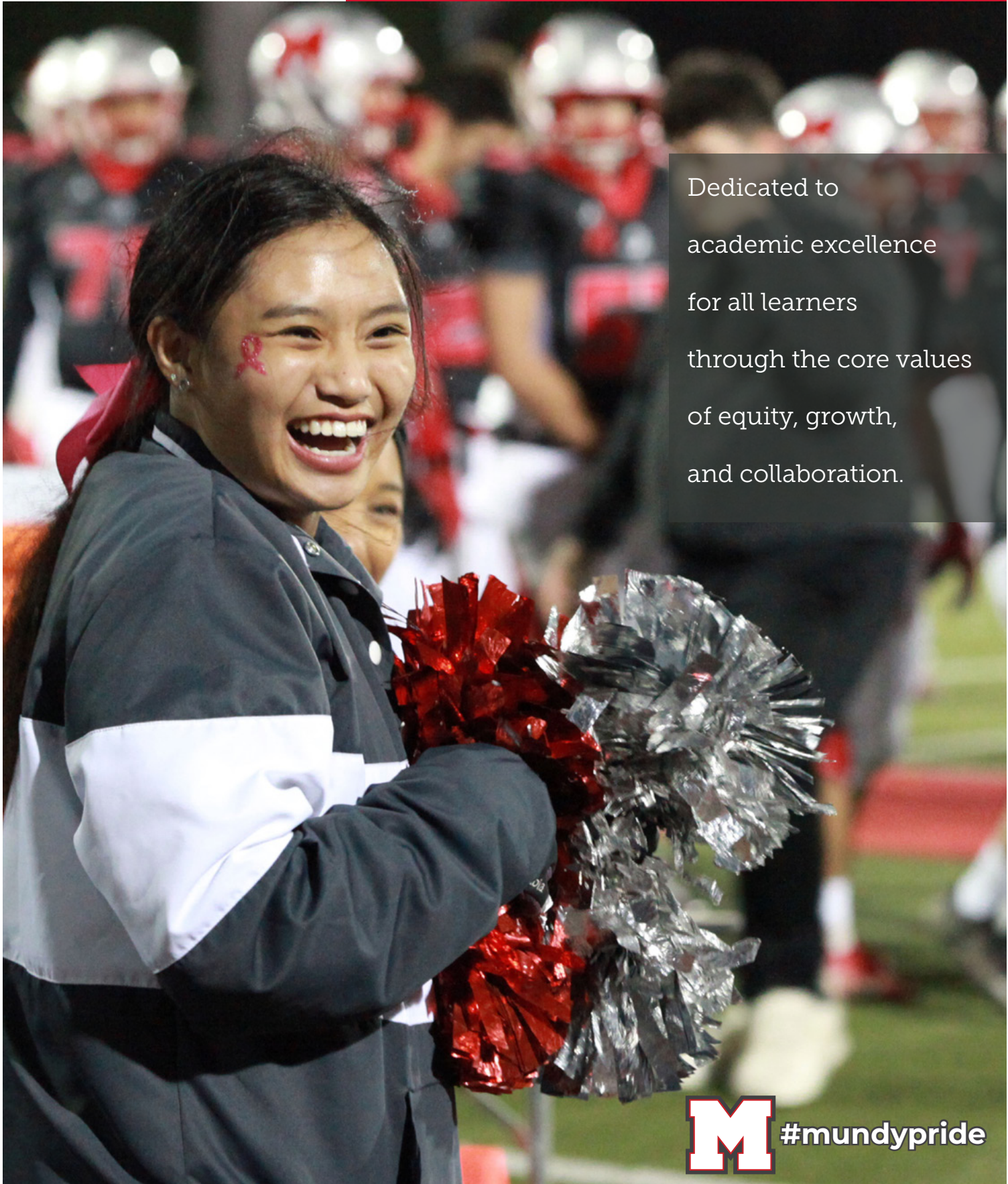


MUNDELEIN™
HIGH SCHOOL

DISTRICT 120 ANNUAL UPDATE

MAY 2019

THE MESSENGER



Dedicated to
academic excellence
for all learners
through the core values
of equity, growth,
and collaboration.



#mundypride

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Dr. Myers presents Sol Cabachuela '04 with a Distinguished Alumni Award

DISTRICT TAX HIGHLIGHTS

- %** The district's overall tax rate has dropped \$.29 since its 2014 high rate. That's about a 10% reduction in rates.
- =** MHS's overall tax rate is comparable, lower or much lower than most neighboring Lake County HS districts.
- \$** Over the past five years, an average \$300,000 home in the MHS district saw an increase in the total average tax (that the district receives) of about \$45 per year. As a percentage of the total property tax bill that's an average of .004% increase per year.

Source: MHS Business Office

MUNDELEIN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 120

2018-2019 BY THE NUMBERS



Kevin Myers, PhD
Superintendent of
Districts 75 + 120

Welcome to our first annual update which we will begin publishing at the close of each school year. This update will highlight many of the district's accomplishments and will be our way of maintaining transparency and communication with our district residents.

The overall theme of this update is "By the Numbers" so you will notice many statistics and percentages mentioned throughout. By showing our information with meaningful numbers, we hope the content will be easy to understand. Even our "Test Your Knowledge" MHS quiz on page 11 looks for answers in number format.



SHARED SERVICES/ SHARED SUPERINTENDENT TO BEGIN JULY 1

The shared services model is set to begin on July 1, 2019. With the retirement of District 75 Superintendent Andy Henrikson set for June 30, the boards of education from both Mundelein Elementary District 75 and Mundelein High School District 120 have been working closely together to make a smooth transition to shared services.

For several months, a committee from within these two groups has been working with an educational consultant, Dr. Dale Truding, on a formal outline called the "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 led to the arrangement and what it was intended to accomplish," she said.

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

- Build trust and move the districts forward**
- Become an effective team with a common, focused direction**
- Understand our individual roles and collective responsibilities**
- Nurture our environment that supports positive change**
- Explore additional shared services opportunities as they arise**

I am looking forward to being superintendent for both districts beginning in July. This is a great opportunity for our two districts to work closely together and will also benefit our other feeder districts, 73, 76 and 79, to provide an excellent, cohesive and consistent education for all Mundelein students from Pre-K to high school seniors.

INCREDIBLE REACTIONS TO BOOK MURALS



The viral story on the book murals in the MHS English hallway received record positive responses on several platforms. Coverage of the story took place in the *Daily Herald*, *New Jersey Family* magazine, *Scary Mommy* website, *Pop Sugar* website, *BBC* in London, two European countries and countless websites and blogs. Diane Covert, English Department Chair and Ron Girard, MHS Public Information Officer received countless inquiries about the project from teachers and administrators from around the country and across the globe.

Completed during the Winter Break, murals of the novel covers were installed from floor to ceiling outside the English classrooms of teachers Ryan Buck, Mike Dayton and Mark Landuyt. The book cover reproductions were selected by these teachers as some of their favorite novels and were of high interest level for students. The project was completed by Visual Image Photography (VIP) which cost about \$400 per book cover.

What happened after the students came back from school break was incredible. The mural images posted on the MHS social media pages (Facebook and Twitter) quickly amassed a record-breaking amount of positive feedback. Within 48 hours, more than 4,000 people had shared the post and early 750 had favorably commented.

“I was amazed at the responses,” said Ron Girard, MHS public information officer.

“Many comments were from teachers and administrators from all over the country who wanted to replicate the idea.”

As the story went viral, Jason Reynolds, author of one of the novels, *All American Boys*, tweeted his pleasant reaction. In addition, the publisher of two of the books donated 30 copies of each to the English Department. Christopher McDougall, another author, was scheduled to visit MHS and speak with students but his flight was cancelled due to a snowstorm.

Most importantly, the teachers said that the project accomplished exactly what they had hoped—to stir an interest in great literature among students.

SHARK TANK “WINNERS” GIVE TIPS TO BUSINESS INCUBATOR STUDENTS

Mundelein High School’s Business Incubator students and staff hosted a presentation on March 6, by the inventors of SnapClips, a product they pitched to the entrepreneurs on the TV show, *Shark Tank*.




At the end of the presentation, three sharks— Mark Cuban, Lori Greiner and Alex Rodriguez made a combined \$150,000 offer for 30% equity in the business and SnapClips accepted.

The duo, Chief Executive Officer Martin Dimitrov and Chief Marketing Officer John Perricone spoke with MHS and Carmel High School Business Incubator students in Mundelein’s state-of-the-art Business Incubator Laboratory. The audience included the associate principal for curriculum and the Business Incubator teacher from Round Lake High School.

The inventors first started their project while in a Business Incubator course at Wheeling High School. They spoke about coming up with their initial idea, how they developed it, and what stages they went through on their way to Shark Tank.

SnapClips, a new design for keeping weights stable during workout sessions, was an instant hit with the Shark Tank business investors.

The event was planned by Rosangela Fiore, MHS community coordinator and Michelle Sherwin-Petrucci, Business Incubator instructor.



MHS FACEBOOK PAGE STATISTICS

492,084	TOTAL PEOPLE REACHED
235,294	ENGAGEMENTS (PEOPLE WHO REACTED IN SOME WAY)
744	COMMENTS (ALL POSITIVE)
4,267	SHARES (OTHER FRIENDS/WEBSITES)

In addition, three of the authors of the featured books are making plans to visit MHS and speak with students about their novels. Simon and Schuster, publisher of some of the books plans to donate copies of their published novels to the English Department library.



Photo Credit: Emma Aculado

64 SIXTY FOUR SENIORS RECOGNIZED AS ILLINOIS STATE SCHOLARS

Mundelein High School Principal Anthony Kroll has announced that 64 students from the MHS graduating class of 2019 have been recognized as Illinois State Scholars.

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), the state agency committed to helping to make college accessible and affordable for Illinois families, confers this recognition to top Illinois high school students annually. This year, more than 21,000 honorees join the other top students who have been honored for their academic achievements since the designation was first introduced in 1958.

Illinois State Scholars represent approximately the top ten percent of high school seniors from 757 high schools across the state. Illinois State Scholars are chosen based on a combination of exemplary ACT or SAT test scores and sixth semester class rank.

"We're extremely proud of these students for being recognized as Illinois State Scholars and wish them well in their preparations for the next phase of their lives," Dr. Anthony Kroll, principal, said.

26 AP COURSES OFFERED

Advanced Placement (AP) courses give students the chance to tackle college-level work while at MHS and earn college credit and placement.

81% APPROACHING/EXCEEDING SAT STANDARDS

Class of 2019 Mean Scores
Top 10% Score = 1393 | Top 15% = 1344

85.5% WILL ATTEND COLLEGE

Most of the Class of 2018 graduates will attend a 2- or 4-year college or university.

Source: ECRA Group, Inc. 2019

2 MHS SENIORS SELECTED FOR LAKE COUNTY LEADERSHIP TEAM

Two Mundelein High School seniors have been chosen for the 2018-2019 Daily Herald Lake County Leadership Team. Only ten students were chosen from all applicants for the award.

Award winners will be part of a Leadership Team story that recently ran in the Daily Herald Neighbor section on March 7.

Representing Mundelein High School are seniors Diego Cisneros and Jillian Hoffstadt.



Diego Cisneros

Jillian Hoffstadt

"We congratulate every student on the list because they had to survive a rigorous weed-out process just to be nominated and because their hard work, enthusiasm and commitment are so impressive," said Renee Trappe, Daily Herald Leadership Team Coordinator.

"Thank you to the coordinators at each school and to the teachers and counselors who wrote excellent letters of recommendation. We can't do this without your enthusiasm for which we are very grateful," Trappe said.



1 MHS JUNIOR TO STUDY IN SHANGHAI— MORE THAN 3,000 APPLICANTS

MORA CHOSEN FOR CHINESE IMMERSION SUMMER PROGRAM



Christopher Mora

Mundelein High School junior, Christopher Mora, has been selected by the Counsel on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) to spend part of the upcoming summer studying Chinese Language and

Culture in Shanghai, China. He was nominated by his Advanced Placement (AP) English teacher, Angie McLaughlin.

“You should be extremely proud of Christopher as we had more than 3,000 applicants for our November 30 deadline,” said Anna Johnson, a CIEE representative. “We rely on your recommendations to help us determine which applicants to accept and award scholarships to. Thank you for your time and patience, and for all that you do to support your students’ efforts to live and learn abroad!” she said.

Mora is currently carrying a rigorous group of courses which include AP Psychology, AP Spanish Language, AP United States/Comparative Government and Politics, Honors Pre-Calculus, AP English Language, Honors Physics and PE Strength 2.

“I first heard about the program through the morning announcements at school and thought it would be a great experience,” Mora said. “I was thrilled when I found out I was accepted and was basically awarded a ‘free ride’ scholarship too.”

Mora is looking forward to learning Mandarin and hopes to become fluent in the language. His future plans include studying medicine in U.S. communities with Mandarin speaking residents. While in Shanghai, Mora will spend four weeks living with a local family. “That should really help me to understand the culture that I will be living in,” he concluded.

67% TAKE ADVANCED LEVEL COURSES

Advanced Placement (AP) courses provide students with college level academic experiences. Students have an opportunity to take an AP exam each spring that assesses their learning in their AP courses. Students who receive a passing score on these exams can earn college credit.

Honors courses provide students with rigorous academic experiences that advance their skills and content knowledge in a variety of subject areas. Honors courses are solid preparation for Advanced Placement course work.

74% INVOLVED IN CO-CURRICULARS

Nearly three-quarters of our students participate in 80+ co-curricular activities including 30+ athletic teams and 50+ clubs/activities with focuses in academics, careers, competitions, culture, dance, discussion, health, leadership, media, music, recreation, service, theater, and visual arts.

90 RECEIVED BILINGUAL AWARDS

Ninety District 120 seniors have earned the State Seal of Biliteracy since its inception in 2016. The State Seal of Biliteracy is a recognition given to graduating high school students who have demonstrated a high level of proficiency in English, and also in reading, writing, listening and speaking in a second language.

Source: ECRA Group, Inc. 2019

EL BAILE DANCE A ROUSING SUCCESS FOR STUDENTS



The MHS Puertas Latin Culture Club hosted the second annual El Baile Dance February 23 in the main gym. The dance featured various types of Latin music such as cumbia, bachata, banda and others. Students not familiar with Latin dancing or those who wanted to “brush up” on their skills had an opportunity to attend free Latin Dance workshops the week prior led by MHS staff member Carsyn Rodriguez.

“It was an option for students to learn or practice basic steps so they would feel more confident dancing at the actual event,” said Laura Garcia, Puertas Latin Culture Club advisor. “We hoped to help bridge any gaps between our Latino and non-Latino students and this is a great event that all our students can get involved with,” she said.

15 STUDENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS OFFERED

ACADEMIC SUPPORT
MATH COURSE

ACADEMIC SUPPORT
READING COURSE

AP MENTORSHIP

AVID
FRESHMAN ADVISORY
LITERACY CENTER

MATH LAB
ONLINE CREDIT
RECOVERY

PEER TUTORING
PUSH-IN LITERACY
SUPPORT

SCHULER SCHOLARS
SPECIAL EDUCATION
PROGRAMMING &
504 PLANS

STRATEGIC READING
COURSE
STUDY CAFE



125 SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN PARTICIPATE IN VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

The MHS Veterans Day Ceremony was held November 9 in the main gym. The student body cheered as veterans were led into the gym by the MHS Drum Line. The guest speaker was Brigadier General James Swanson, a 1967 alum of MHS.

One of the highlights included the MHS band playing the themed songs for each of the five military branches. The veterans stood as each of their songs was played. Veterans and their families were treated to breakfast at the District Office Building following the ceremony.



96 PERCENT FEEL SAFE AT MHS

Most MHS students say that they feel “mostly safe” or “very safe” in the hallways of school, in the bathrooms of the school, outside around the school, traveling between home and school, and in classes.

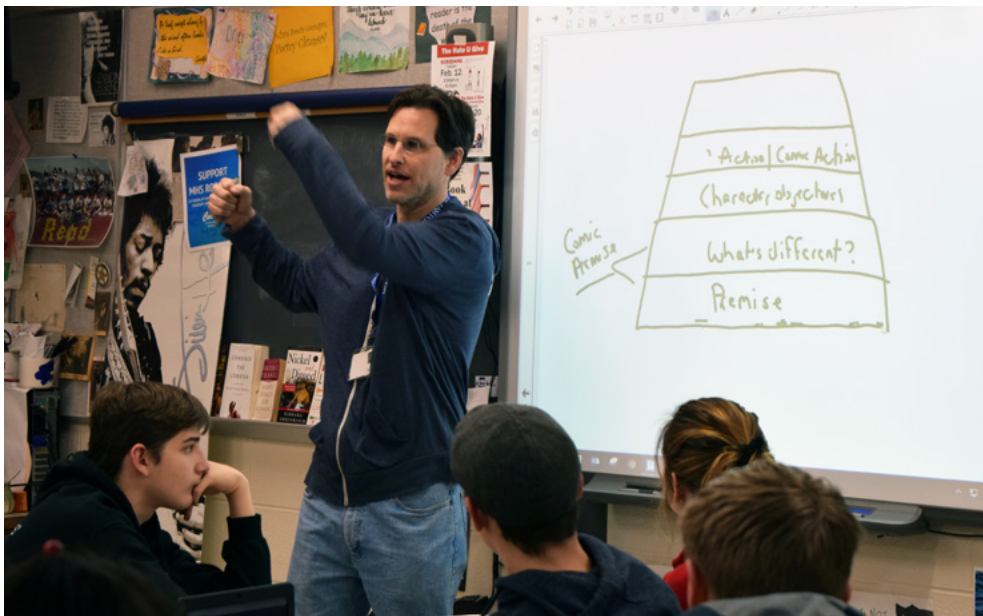
Source: ECRA Group, Inc. 2019

AA+ MOODY'S BOND RATING

Source: ECRA Group, Inc. 2019

MHS is rated AA+ by Moody's. This rating ranks MHS credit worthiness of borrowers using a standardized rating scale. There are 21 possible ratings from C to AAA.

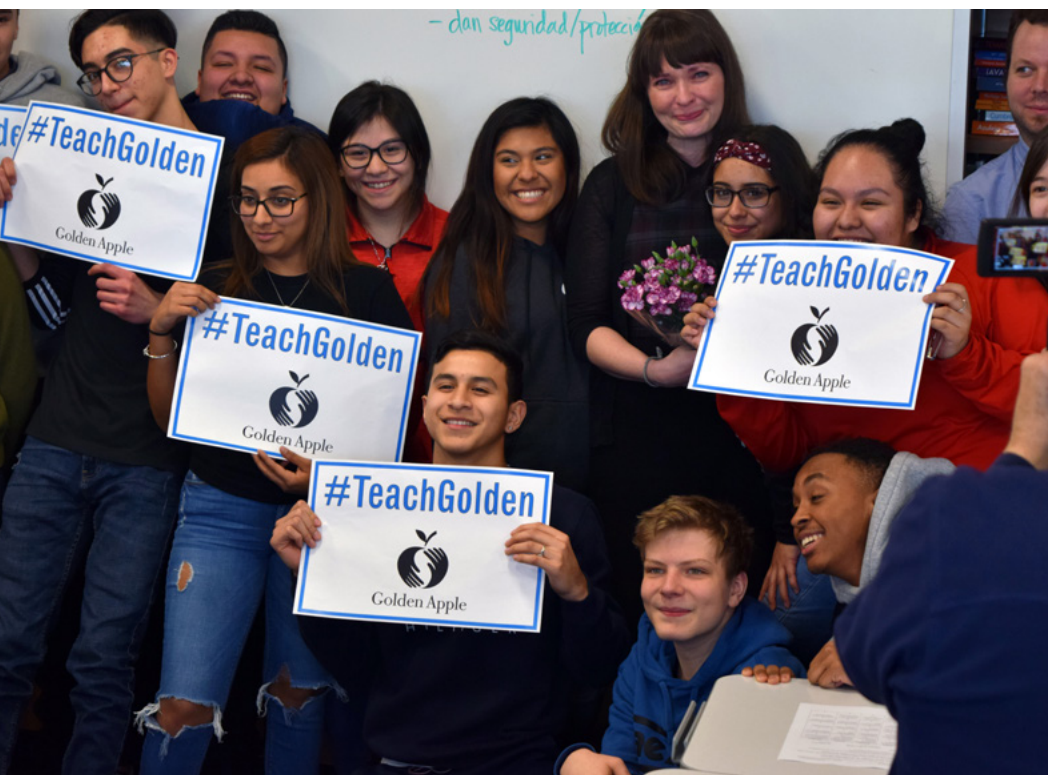
SECOND CITY WRITER GIVES ADVICE TO ENGLISH CLASS



Glenn Earich, a writer for Second City in Chicago, visited with students in Jim Drier's Honors English class on January 23. An Ohio State University graduate, Earich has been teaching at the Second City Training Center since 2000. He has written, produced and directed many shows and has also done freelance work for Second City Works. In addition, he has taught at The Chicago Center for the Performing Arts and has been a guest lecturer at DePaul University. One of Earich's children is a student at MHS.

“I asked Glenn to talk about the life of a writer, how to come up with ideas, how to write effectively, the importance of revision and how and when to be funny,” Drier explained.

TEACHER HONORED WITH PRESTIGIOUS GOLDEN APPLE AWARD



Students and family members celebrate Sara Blair Winter-Rosenberg's prestigious Golden Apple award.



Sara is surprised to learn of the award, summer sabbatical offering, PBS feature and cash award.

1ST GOLDEN APPLE HONOREE AT MHS

Golden Apple, a leading Illinois nonprofit committed to recognizing exemplary educators and developing future educators, surprised Sara Blair Winter-Rosenberg, a Mundelein High School teacher, on March 18 with the highly respected Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching. The annual award, which recognizes and honors outstanding teachers for their role in building a stronger, better-educated society, was presented to her in her classroom in front of students and school leadership.

Following a competitive process, the 2019 award recipients were selected from more than 550 nominations of high school teachers from 71 Illinois counties. The field was narrowed to 32 finalists and from that group, 10 were chosen in Illinois.

Winter-Rosenberg has been teaching at Mundelein High School since 2012 in the World Languages department. She currently teaches Honors Spanish 5, Honors Spanish Heritage Learners 4 and Spanish Heritage Learners 3.

The 2019 award recipients will be featured on a Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) one-hour TV program. The show taping will air on Golden Apple's Facebook page on May 18 and the edited PBS broadcast will air on multiple future dates.

1 OF ONLY TEN AWARD WINNERS IN ILLINOIS THIS YEAR

As a highly-valued component of this recognition, Northwestern University, Golden Apple's partner for more than 30 years, provides a Spring Sabbatical to award recipients at no cost. In addition, each award recipient receives a \$5,000 cash award. They also become Fellows of the Golden Apple Academy of Educators, a community of educators who support current and future teachers and deepen

the learning of students. An important part of a Fellows' mission is to share his or her expertise and mentor Golden Apple Scholars, who are aspiring teachers with a desire to teach in Illinois' schools-of-need.

"In honoring and developing K-12 teachers, Northwestern University and the Golden Apple Foundation are committed to improving teaching, learning and the lives of kids across the state of Illinois," said Timothy Dohrer, Ph.D., Director of the Master of Science in Education Program at Northwestern University's School of Education and Social Policy.

Founded in 1985, Golden Apple innovates teacher preparation and leadership to transform both the careers of teachers as well as the lives of students in Illinois. More than 1,000 scholars are currently teaching across Illinois.

ARAIZA BRAVO EARNS HARVARD UNIVERSITY PhD SCHOLARSHIP



Oscar Rodrigo Araiza Bravo, '14

Oscar Rodrigo Araiza Bravo, a 2014 MHS graduate, was recently granted a full scholarship to Harvard University to earn a PhD in physics. He graduated with a straight A average from the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign with degrees in mathematics and engineering physics. A December graduate, he spent the summer of 2018 as a CalTech intern doing computational physics.

4.00 UNDERGRAD
GRADE POINT
AVERAGE

What does he see in the future? After completing doctoral studies he hopes to become a college professor who does both teaching and research. "I enjoy teaching. If you ever want to find out whether or not you know a subject, teach it," he said.

70^K ESTIMATED PhD
SCHOLARSHIP
AWARD

Born in Mexico City, Araiza Bravo arrived in the U.S. in 2011 when his father, a senior engineer, was transferred to Libertyville. There, Araiza Bravo attended and graduated from MHS. He said it was a challenge but a necessity to learn English immediately. He recalled an incident that he told to *The News-Gazette* in Champaign-Urbana—"When you can't ask for a doughnut at Dunkin' Donuts, that's when you know you have to learn the language," he said.



Araiza Bravo (pictured in crown) is awarded "Mr. Mustang 2014" his senior year at MHS.

After graduating from MHS, Araiza Bravo enrolled in the Engineering Pathways program at the College of Lake County (CLC). He explained that University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign was a perfect fit because of its affordability, proximity to his Chicago-area family and Illinois' reputation in engineering, math and physics.

Besides being an award-winning teaching assistant in the Illinois physics department, Araiza Bravo enjoys bowling and playing soccer. While at Mundelein High School, Araiza Bravo branched out into other areas besides math, earning the lead role of Romeo in the school's production of *Romeo and Juliette* and winning the title of Mr. Mustang his senior year.

"This is just another example of one of the many young people who use their Mundelein High School education to go out into the world and make a difference," said Kevin Myers, MHS District 120 Superintendent. "We're very proud of Oscar's accomplishments."

93.6% FRESHMEN
ON TRACK

The majority of our grade 8 and MHS students are on track to be college and career ready by the end of grade 12.

96.4% DAILY
ATTENDANCE
RATE

Our students show up for school. Regular attendance is shown to be a critical factor in ensuring excellent student performance. Students who do not attend school regularly may fall behind and may struggle to complete assignments.

159 FACULTY
WITH
MASTER'S OR HIGHER

Our teachers are highly talented, passionate and committed. Mundelein High School employs more than 150 faculty members with a master's degree or higher.

Source: ECRA Group, Inc. 2019

10 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI SALUTED AT 2018 AWARDS BANQUET



Ten MHS alumni were honored at the Annual Alumni Banquet. The honorees were also presented with a Distinguished Alumni Wall plaque that will be prominently displayed at Mundelein High School.



Merry Quinn-Krajniak shows off her MHS letterman's jacket.

2018 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS



Sol Cabachuela '04,
Mundelein High School Parent Liaison, President of the Mundelein Latino Citizen Police Academy Alumni, Mentor for Kids Hope USA, Mundelein Village Clerk



Randall Schenck '04,
Director of Quality Assurance, Medline Industries, Inc.; U.S. Army Sniper Section Leader, awarded the Purple Heart for injuries suffered during hostile fire



Merry Quinn-Krajniak '81, Regional Director, Archdiocese of Chicago Office of Catholic Schools, experience in several area high schools as teacher, counselor, director and assistant superintendent



Steve Figved '67, retired from a 47-year public safety career with fire and emergency services, founding member and President of the Mundelein High School Education Foundation



Juniper Simonis '02, Lead Scientist, founder and owner of DAPPER Stats; University of Florida Data Analyst; Lincoln Park Zoo Adjunct Scientist; junior team coach and trainer, Rose City Rollers



Scott Verschoor '84, Lead Partner and KPMC's Healthcare and Life Sciences Line of Business Leader, Board of Trustees, Music Institute of Chicago



Mark Knigge '66, former Mayor of Wauconda and retired Cell/Molecular Biologist at Abbott Laboratories



Brad Steele '77, Captain of the Boeing 747-400 with Kalitta Air and flies military cargo charters in and out of Afghanistan



Steven Wilson '75, Instructor of calculus and statistics at Christian International School of Prague, Prague, Czech Republic; math professor and department chair at Johnson County Community College, Overland, KS



Sean McNanie '79, President and CEO of Patriot West Constructors; played professional football with the Buffalo Bills, Arizona Cardinals and Indianapolis Colts



28 MHS GRADUATES NOW WORK AT HIGH SCHOOL

How do you determine if a high school is a **great** school? One of the factors has to be the number of graduates who choose to return to their alma mater for their careers. At MHS, an impressive 28 alumni currently work in teaching, instructional aide, clerical, security and other positions.

95% RETENTION RATE

MHS has a high retention rate where most teachers choose to remain in our district.

Source: ECRA Group, Inc. 2019

80+ SPORTS, CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE

Mundelein High School offers an array of co-curricular opportunities that allow students to get involved, explore their interests, develop their talents, impact our community, and simply just have fun.



BY THE NUMBERS... TEST YOUR MHS KNOWLEDGE

- 1 How many staff members have a master's degree or above?
- 2 What is the amount of the average monthly electric bill for the high school building?
- 3 How many gallons of water does it take to fill the swimming pool?
- 4 How many superintendents have led the District since it opened?
- 5 How many times did MHS have co-valedictorians?
- 6 How many School Resource Officers have worked at MHS?
- 7 How many people make up the District 120 Board of Education?
- 8 What is the seating capacity of the auditorium?
- 9 How many large, flat-screen TVs are in the MHS hallways?
- 10 How many Distinguished Alumni have been honored by MHS so far?
- 11 How many varsity sports does MHS offer?

- 1 159
- 2 The average monthly electric bill is \$25,000 to \$35,000
- 3 Roughly 166,000 gallons of water
- 4 Ten, not counting Interims. Donald Watts, Loren Nicol, James McCallum, Nels Havens, Wayne Bottom, Linda Hanson, Arthur T. Newbrough, Stan Fields, Jody Ware, Kevin Myers
- 5 Twice: 1996-97 and 2012-13
- 6 Seven (Mike O'Brien, Chris Tennyson, Fred Kliora, Chris Callas, Brian Kisselberg, Sarah Wirth, Steve Balogh)
- 7 Seven
- 8 738
- 9 2
- 10 20
- 11 33

ANSWERS



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