

PROSPECTOR PRESS

Mining the Promise of the Future

August 2021



www.pvschools.net/mmes

(602) 449-3700

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our staff has been working hard and looking forward to beginning school year 2021-2022. I hope everyone was able to enjoy the summer and have some relaxation and fun time.

We have a few new staff to welcome this year. Emily Alexander comes to us from Fireside Elementary School. She will be teaching 2nd grade. Robin Zeligman will be teaching our half time STEM special area. Robin used to teach 2nd grade at MMES. It will be fantastic to have her on our team. She will begin with kindergarten and the intermediate grades first semester. Rebecca Hendrickson will be teaching our English language learners. Joyce Huston will be rejoining our duty aide staff. We are excited to have her back. Yvonne Pilling is joining our 6th grade team. Kelsey Moore is returning to our Kindergarten team.

We thought we would be able to have less COVID mitigation strategies and practices compared to last year, but with cases on the rise in AZ we will continue to keep grade levels separated as much as possible and one grade level at a time in the cafeteria and at recesses. We will distance as much as possible in the classrooms and have students wash their hands and we will clean our desktops daily.

We will continue to stagger drop off and pick up times to lessen the number of students bunched together at one time. Volunteers and visitors will be limited and hopefully numbers will go back down and we can open up more. Everyone will have to be vigilant about watching for symptoms and keeping students home if they are sick. Our goal is for our students and staff to be able to stay in school.

We know students lost academic time last year so we will be focused on pinpointing gaps and working on filling the gaps. You can help us prepare your students that they will be working very hard this year. I think our students have been through a lot and they are stronger and more resilient than they know. We will be helping them have a can-do attitude.

(continued...)

AUGUST

- 10:** First day of school
- 10-11:** Kindergarten only released at 12:30 p.m.
- 12:** Kindergarten first full day of school
- 13:** Spirit Day (wear MMES apparel or school colors)
- 18:** United Parent Council Meeting, 9:00-10:45 a.m. via Zoom
- 19:** Fall picture day (individual pictures)
- 19:** PV Schools Governing Board meeting, 7:00 p.m., 15002 N. 32nd St.
- 20:** Student Council representative applications due by 9:00 a.m.
- 24-25:** Curriculum Night, 5:00-8:00 p.m.
- August 30 – September 15:** Heat Relief Drive to benefit Salvation Army sponsored by Student Council
- 31:** Early dismissal, 12:30 p.m., Real Life Hero theme day

Upcoming in September

- 1:** Student Council meeting, 8:00 a.m., Room 14A
- 3:** Spirit Day (wear MMES apparel or school colors)
- 6-7:** Labor Day recess (no school)
- 14:** PTG Meeting, 6:00 p.m., with a presentation about the City of Phoenix Water Line Project

Principal's Message (continued)

Hopefully, our students will have seen some of the Olympics and have been inspired about what we are all capable of doing. I loved the Toyota ad that said, "You don't have to be amazing to start, but you have to start to be amazing."

Sincerely,

Donna Alley

Principal

FALL PICTURE DAY

Individual student pictures will be taken on Thursday, August 19. Online ordering will open August 10 at dorianstudio.com (enter Mercury Mine and choose August 19 to order online).



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Please make a note of the following dates when students will be dismissed at 12:30 p.m. for staff professional development or parent-teacher conferences:

- August 31
- October 5, 27, and 28
- December 7
- January 11, 27, and 28
- February 15
- April 5
- May 26 (last day of school)

Drop Off/Pick Up Times for 2021-2022:

Drop off A-K 8:25 – 8:33 a.m.

L-Z 8:33 – 8:40 a.m.

Pick up A-K 3:10 p.m.

L-Z 3:15 p.m.

Early dismissal days

A-K 12:23 p.m.

L-Z 12:30 p.m.

Pre-K 12:15 p.m.



YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW

An advertisement for TreeRing Yearbooks. It features a young girl with curly hair, wearing a white t-shirt and blue jeans, standing with her hands raised in surprise. The background is a green, textured surface resembling a tree trunk. Text on the ad includes "TreeRing YEARBOOKS", "Get the Free iPhone App", and "Start adding memories to your yearbook". A "Get the App" button is visible at the bottom.

Capture Your Memories in This Year's Yearbook

Purchase by September 30 to get 10% OFF

- Customize Your 2 Free Pages!
- Add photos from your computer, Facebook, Instagram, Google Drive and more.

To Purchase and Customize Your Yearbook

1. Visit www.treering.com/validate
2. Enter your school's passcode:
1016008740733911

PTG News

Hi and Welcome Back!

The PTG Executive Board has been busy this summer coming up with ways to stay connected, build community, and fundraise no matter what this year may bring. WE ARE READY FOR SOME FUN! However, you don't have to be on the board to contribute ideas or your time. If you have ideas or input, please email us at mercurymineptg@gmail.com.

FAMILY DINE-OUTS – Make sure you are getting our emails so you know when and where our famously fun fundraising family dine-outs are taking place! Our first one will be on our first half day, **August 31** – location to be announced soon! Your family can enjoy lunch and/or dinner with a portion of the purchases coming right back to PTG to benefit our students and school. Stay connected for more information!

PTG GENERAL MEETING – September 14, 6:00 p.m. – Due to greater virtual attendance, we will continue with the Zoom format for the time being. Links will be posted on social media and also emailed.

COMING SOON – T-shirt collaboration with State Forty Eight, Teacher's Lounge water coolers being installed, Bathroom Beautification Project, Mascot Costume Reveal, Yearbook Cover Contest, Pumpkin Decorating Showcase, BINGO Night and so much more!

Please keep your eye out for emails and social media posts to stay in the loop with PTG! We encourage all parents and guardians at MMES to get involved as much or as little as they are able.

Sincerely, your 2021-22 PTG Executive Board:

President:	Erin McDonald
Vice President:	Christina Vaaler
Treasurer:	Jake White
Fundraising:	Kelly Christiano and Heather Wozny
Events:	Karen Stine and Stephanie Howard
Communications:	Kayla Essert
Parent-Teacher Liaison:	Christina Selden
Board Member:	Lisa Stein

STAY CONNECTED

- **NOT getting PTG emails? You must allow us to email you by registering with our PTG platform.** This is the **ONLY** way we can get your information. Parents or school members, go to www.mercurymineptg.ptboard.com:
 - Log in
 - On "Join School" pop-up screen, enter school code **J6TM6N**If you'd like to fill out the profile information for your child and teacher for the directory. This is super helpful for playdates and connecting with other parents.
- **Feeling like you missed something and can't find it in your email?** At any time you can view our previous emails at www.mercurymineptg.ptboard.com under "Announcements."
- Our Facebook page is a great way to stay updated about events and check our pictures from last year! Search for Mercury Mine PTG and prepare to be entertained by our witty group of Facebook contributors.
- But wait! There's more! We now have Instagram! Search for us using the same name – Mercury Mine PTG.
- TikTok – Coming soon? Now accepting applications for this role – show us your best dance moves!



MERCURY MINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM NIGHT 2021

**Tuesday, August 24 and
Wednesday, August 25**

Please join us for Curriculum Night via Google Meet to meet your child's teachers and hear presentations about the 2021-2022 school year. You will receive more information and a Google Meet invitation from your child's teacher closer to August 24.

Find out about grade-level teaching materials, Core Knowledge curriculum, learning goals and school/classroom expectations. Learn how to best partner with your student and his/her teacher to help ensure a successful learning experience.

Please log in promptly at the beginning of each session. This is an evening reserved for teachers to talk to parents about curriculum. If you need to speak to the teacher about your child, please schedule a separate meeting.

Tuesday, August 24

5:30 - 6:00 p.m. 2nd Grade / 3rd and 4th Grade
Learning Center

6:00 - 6:30 p.m. 3rd Grade / K-2 Learning Center

6:30 - 7:00 p.m. 4th Grade / 5th and 6th Grade
Learning Center

Wednesday, August 25

5:00 - 5:40 p.m. Kindergarten

5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Montessori Pre-K

6:00 - 6:30 p.m. 1st Grade / 5th and 6th Grade Honors

6:30 - 7:00 p.m. 5th Grade / 4th Grade Honors

7:00 - 7:30 p.m. 6th Grade



MMES needs a Duty Aide to supervise morning drop off, cafeteria, recess, and afternoon pick-up.

If you are interested, please call the office at (602) 449-3700.

The position is three hours per school day:

8:20 - 8:50 a.m.; 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; and 3:10-3:40.

Our Montessori Pre-K and Mascot programs are in need of Childcare Associates.

PVSchools has 300+ positions open for:

- School nurses
- Para professionals
- Substitute teachers
- Bus Drivers
- And More!

See all job postings at:

jobs.pvschools.net

**WELCOME
BACK!**