



ACES HIGH SCHOOL & Mukilteo Virtual Academy | Weekly What's Happening • Family Edition

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Welcome!

¡Bienvenidos!

Welcome to the ACES/Mukilteo Virtual Academy (MVA) family! This section is a repeat of last week since we have more new families who have recently joined AC/MVA.

We are proud that our small, choice high school specializes in personalization...and as part of that personalization we are now offering Mukilteo Virtual Academy as another learning choice for families. We have exciting things in store this year and welcome you to join us as we host community events, town halls, and student-centered activities. But, most importantly, we are excited that you want to be part of the ACES/MVA family and we look forward to serving you!

As we launch our year, we wanted to introduce our new building administrators:



Dr. Kimberly Jensen | Principal, ACES High School and Mukilteo Virtual Academy

What I am most excited about being at ACES High School, and our new Mukilteo Virtual Academy, is the family feeling. Staff are truly invested in the lives and learning of students. But we are also equally INNOVATIVE: constantly looking for new ways to grow students to their best selves. What an amazing combination!

This is my eighth year in Mukilteo School District where I previously served as an Assistant Principal at Kamiak High School. Before joining Mukilteo, I taught English Language Arts and Social Studies in Grades 7-11 in Lake Washington School District. My background also includes teaching at Seattle Pacific University in the School of Education and Instructional Consulting. My husband, Shane, and I have two grown children, Zachary and Jessica, and a fur-baby, Terminator, who is a six-pound Pomeranian. When I am not at work, I love to play pinball, run, adventure, and connect with friends. I look forward to getting to know each one of you this year and partner with you as we envision our school into the future!



Ms. Alysia Pavilonis | Assistant Principal, Mukilteo Virtual Academy

Hello ACES-MVA families and students. My name is Alysia Pavilonis and I will be the new Assistant Principal over this exceptional online learning academy. I hope you are as excited as I am because you chose to personalize your learning and will be such an integral part of its success.

Prior to becoming the Assistant Principal at MVA, I was an Assessment (State/AP/Cambridge) Coordinator and Chemistry Teacher for the Palm Beach County School District. My passion is for helping others succeed and I am looking forward to being a part of the success we will have as an ACES-MVA community. I have an elementary school aged son and enjoy playing video games with him as well as strolling around nature, taking in the beauty of the outdoors. I may be from Florida, but I am enamored with the beauty of Washington and the delicious coffee around every corner. I wish you a warm welcome to MVA and I can't wait to get to know each of you!

Back to School Days

Días de regreso a la escuela

Next week is Back to School Days on Tuesday, 24 August and Wednesday, 25 August from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM. During our Back to Schools Days, students can purchase a Yearbook for \$25, check out a laptop for the year, and complete other health and emergency contact forms. ASB Cards are free to all students this year! Picture days for both ACES and MVA students will be in early September. You will not get your ASB Card through Mariner or Kamiak. MVA ASB Cards will have an “MA” or “KA” designator on the card for game entry.

Forms: Here are digital versions of all forms that you can complete and submit for Back to School Days. We will also have hard copies.

- [Computer Checkout Form](#)
- [Health Questionnaire](#)
- [Free and Reduced Lunch Application](#)

Yearbook Information Update: MVA Seniors, you will submit a picture to both your home school (Kamiak or Mariner) AND to an MVA submission link. In an upcoming issue we will provide those links for you.

From the Transportation Department

Actualización de Transporte

Hey, ACES students! Need bus transportation this year? [Click here](#) to complete the Transportation Survey.

¡Hola, estudiante de ACES! ¿Necesita transporte en autobús este año? [Haga clic aquí](#) para completar la Encuesta de transporte.

Mukilteo Virtual Academy Students...Please Read the Updates

Encuesta para estudiantes de la Academia Virtual Mukilteo

Hey, MVA students! We want to hear from you. Please complete [this short survey](#) so we can get to know you better and how we can best support your learning needs.

Choosing Electives: If you have not yet registered for elective courses, please get into Qmlativ to make selections by tomorrow, Friday, 20 August. If you do not see something you were enrolled in at your home school, please reach out to Alysia to discuss your needs, not your home school: T: 425.366.3921; E: PavilonisAJ@mukilteo.wednet.edu.

ADDED ELECTIVES! We've added Psychology/Interpersonal Relations. This course counts as a CTE or Elective. Planning for college and cross-career advantage? Consider taking Spanish as your World Language credit. Lastly, we added Web Design. In the event you do not register for electives, we will select them for you to make a full schedule.

REMEMBER, unless a student is in Sno-Isle or taking partial Running Start, six classes through MVA is required. If you are enrolled in Running Start and MVA, you need to connect with Alysia by Wednesday, 25 August so that she can make sure that the credits and hours align.

Fourth year of Math: Interested in taking Pre-Calculus? [Please complete this short survey](#). Remember that if you are planning for post-high school college plans, we HIGHLY ENCOURAGE you to take a fourth year of math. We also offer Financial Independence (Personal and Career, both are semester classes) and Technical Math for the Trades (applied Math that is a yearlong class).

Consider taking AP Literature! This course is the perfect introduction to AP studies. And, the teacher, Rachel Johnson, is more than happy to share with you why you should take this course. Contact Rachel at JohnsonRS@mukilteo.wednet.edu for more information!

Class "Bell Schedule": We are in the final stages of getting the bell schedule approved for MVA. We know that there are a lot of questions around what it will look like. We will publish it as soon as it gets the final approval. What we do know is that students will take just three classes per day, unless they choose to take an additional, optional elective at their home school. Classes will start at or near 7:45 AM. And students will be expected, per state requirement, to attend the livestreamed class, just as they would if they were attending a class in-person.

¡Hola, estudiantes de MVA! Queremos escuchar de ti. Complete [esta breve encuesta](#) para que podamos conocerlo mejor y cómo podemos apoyar mejor sus necesidades de aprendizaje.

Elección de asignaturas optativas: Si aún no se ha inscrito en las asignaturas optativas, ingrese a Qmlativ para realizar las selecciones antes de mañana, viernes 20 de agosto. Si no ve algo en lo que estaba inscrito en su escuela local, comuníquese con Alysia para discutir sus necesidades, no su escuela local: T: 425.366.3921; E: PavilonisAJ@mukilteo.wednet.edu. También agregamos Psicología / Relaciones interpersonales. Este curso cuenta como CTE o electivo. En el caso de que no te registres para las optativas, las seleccionaremos para que hagas un horario completo.

RECUERDE, a menos que un estudiante esté en Sno-Isle o esté tomando un Running Start parcial, se requieren seis clases a través de MVA. Si está inscrito en Running Start y MVA, debe conectarse con Alysia antes del miércoles 25 de agosto para que pueda asegurarse de que los créditos y las horas estén alineados.

Cuarto año de Matemáticas: ¿Interesado en tomar Precálculo? [Por favor complete esta breve encuesta](#). Recuerde que si está planificando planes universitarios para después de la escuela secundaria, le recomendamos encarecidamente que tome un cuarto año de matemáticas.

¡Considere tomar Literatura AP! Este curso es la introducción perfecta a los estudios AP. Y la maestra, Rachel Johnson, está más que feliz de compartir con usted por qué debería tomar este curso. ¡Comuníquese con Rachel en JohnsonRS@mukilteo.wednet.edu para obtener más información!

Clase "Horario de campana": Estamos en las etapas finales para obtener la aprobación del horario de campana para MVA. Sabemos que hay muchas preguntas sobre cómo se verá. Publicaremos tan pronto como obtenga la aprobación final. Lo que sí sabemos es que los estudiantes tomarán solo tres clases por día, a menos que elijan tomar una clase optativa adicional en su escuela de origen. Las clases comenzarán a las 7:45 AM o cerca de las mismas. Y se espera que los estudiantes, según los requisitos del estado, asistan a la clase transmitida en vivo, tal como lo harían si estuvieran asistiendo a una clase en persona.

Thoughts from Kimberly

[Repeat. New message next week. 😊]

During this summer, I had an opportunity to spend about a week one-on-one with my 15-year-old—soon-to-be Sophomore—niece. It was a great time hearing about her summer, high school life (from her perspective), and her hopes and dreams for the future, how she can contribute to that future, and what that future might actually look like. During one of those many conversations, she fell silent for a moment and then said, "You know, teenagers are often misunderstood. We're not the jerks and mean people everybody thinks we are. We're just trying to figure it out. We just want to be loved and accepted." Wow. Her words really hit my heart and I have not stopped thinking about it since. I think that is how we all feel, really: "We're just trying to figure it out...and we just want to be loved and accepted." Sometimes it just takes a little leaning in to really hear and understand others—to understand what is

actually motivating a reaction, a silence, a choice, an interaction. Let's lean in. When we know and are known by others, we belong. Where we belong, we commit. Where we commit, we flourish.

Durante el verano, tuve la oportunidad de pasar una semana cara a cara con mi sobrina de 15 años, que pronto será estudiante de segundo año. Fue un gran momento escuchar sobre su vida en la escuela secundaria durante el verano (desde su perspectiva) y sus esperanzas y sueños para el futuro, cómo puede contribuir a ese futuro y cómo podría ser realmente ese futuro. Durante una de esas muchas conversaciones, se quedó en silencio por un momento y luego dijo: "Sabes, a menudo se malinterpreta a los adolescentes. No somos unos idiotas y gente mezquina que todo el mundo cree que somos. Solo estamos tratando de resolverlo. Solo queremos ser amados y aceptados ". Guau. Sus palabras realmente me golpearon el corazón y no he dejado de pensar en ellas desde entonces. Creo que así es como nos sentimos todos, en realidad: "Solo estamos tratando de resolverlo ... y solo queremos ser amados y aceptados". A veces solo se necesita inclinarse un poco para escuchar y comprender realmente a los demás, para comprender qué es lo que realmente motiva una reacción, un silencio, una elección, una interacción. Apoyémonos. Cuando sabemos y somos conocidos por otros, pertenecemos. Donde pertenecemos, nos comprometemos. Donde nos comprometemos, prosperamos.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kimberly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.