



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

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Welcome!

¡Bienvenidos!

Welcome ACES/Mukilteo Virtual Academy (MVA) family! 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

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, 24 August and Wednesday, 25 August from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM for Back to School Days. 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. Next week we will include in our newsletter links to downloadable consent and health forms, and additional information about our Back to School Days. Stay tuned!

Marque sus calendarios para el martes 24 de agosto y el miércoles 25 de agosto de 10:00 a. M. A 1:00 p. M. Para los días de regreso a clases. Durante nuestros Días de Regreso a la Escuela, los estudiantes pueden comprar un Anuario por \$ 25, sacar una computadora portátil para el año y completar otros formularios de contacto de salud y de emergencia. ¡Las tarjetas ASB son gratuitas para todos los estudiantes este año! Los días de fotografías para los estudiantes de ACES y MVA serán a principios de septiembre. No recibirá su tarjeta ASB a través de Mariner o Kamiak. Las tarjetas MVA ASB tendrán un designador "MA" o "KA" en la tarjeta para la entrada al juego. La próxima semana incluiremos en nuestro boletín enlaces a formularios de consentimiento y salud descargables, e información adicional sobre nuestros Días de Regreso a la Escuela. ¡Manténganse al tanto!

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 Student Survey

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.

¡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.

Thoughts from Kimberly

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 cursive script that reads "Kimberly".