

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE

What do I do if my child is absent? Students will document an absence by presenting a written excuse signed by a parent or guardian within three (3) days of returning to school. Documentation may not be sent by fax, e-mail or telephone. The school cannot accept more than four parent notes per semester. After this limit, absences must be excused by a physician or legal authority. Students shall be given a reasonable opportunity, three (3) days, to make up work or tests which were missed because of an excused absence from school. Failure to make up work after a reasonable time will result in a grade of 0. Students who exceed five (5) unexcused absences in any course during a semester will not receive credit for the course.

What is considered tardy to school? These are tardies to first period. They are viewed as neither excused nor unexcused. Freshman will report to the main office of the Freshman Campus for a late pass. Tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade students will report to the desk outside the main office for a late pass. If a student arrives after 9:00am, the parent must contact the school before the student is allowed in class. Students are allowed four (4) tardies to school per semester, no questions asked. In accordance with the School Attendance Council, students must report to a member of the administrative team on the fifth tardy. There will be a limit of 10 tardies per semester.

What is considered tardy to class? These are tardies to periods two through seven. A child is deemed tardy to class when the bell has rung and he/she is not within the confines of the classroom. A child is considered tardy to class if the tardy occurs within the first five minutes of class. After five minutes, the child is considered to be skipping, unless documentation from office, nurse, etc. indicates otherwise. Once a child is considered tardy to class, he/she must report to the attendance clerk to receive a pass to enter class.

What is an identification badge? Each student will be issued an Identification Badge at the beginning of the school year. Students must have their I.D. on their person at all times. Failure to have one on their person will result in disciplinary action.

How does my child purchase a school meal? The price of a student lunch is \$2.35. The price of breakfast is \$1.50. Students receiving free or reduced lunches must complete proper forms at the beginning of each school year. See the lunchroom manager for more information. Students may deposit money into their cafeteria account during breakfast and/or lunch time. Checks or cash are acceptable forms of payment. Make checks payable to *School Nutrition Program*. Parents may also make online deposits by accessing www.myshoolbucks.com. Cafeteria account numbers are non-transferable. No food from outside eating establishments may be brought to the lunchroom.

May my child arrive early to school? Students arriving to school before the school day starts must report to a designated area in the school building. MAIN CAMPUS - Students must report to the cafeteria or commons area. FRESHMAN CAMPUS - Students must report to the cafeteria. Students must have a written pass in order to have access to a teacher's classroom before first period. **Students should not be dropped off before 7:15 am each day.**

What time does my child need to be dropped off and picked up from school? Students must be at school before 8:00 a.m. and are released at 2:53 p.m.

May my child remain on campus after school? Students staying after school must be engaged in a supervised instructional or extra-curricular activity. Students will not be allowed to loiter on the school campuses without a pre-approved reason.

MARY PERSONS HIGH SCHOOL



Jim Finch
Principal

Sarah Alford
Freshman Campus
Assistant Principal

Tammy Marion
Assistant Principal
for Instruction

Gary Walker
Assistant Principal
for Student Services

COMMUNICATION

How do I get important school information? To receive information from Mr. Finch's Remind101 text alerts, text [@maryyp](https://www.instagram.com/maryyp) to 678-971-3889. You can also follow MP on Twitter @MaryPersonsHigh and on Instagram @marypersonshigh.

Will I be able to schedule a parent conference with my child's teachers if I need to? Absolutely! Anytime that you feel that a conference is needed with all of your child's teachers, please contact the 9th grade counselor, Ms. Holly Hamlin. If you need to conference with only one specific teacher, you can always contact the teacher directly by either email or by calling the school.

If my child struggles with his/her academics, will he/she be offered support? Tutoring is available for all subjects and is offered before and/or after school. Your child will need to let his/her teacher know when he/she would like to stay so arrangements can be made.

What is the best way to communicate with my child's teachers? Teachers, administrators, and counselors can be reached by email. Please provide the school with your email account information. Another mode of communication is via voicemail. All teachers, administrators, and counselors have voicemail accounts for parental contact.

How can I keep track of my child's academic progress? Please make sure that you utilize your Power School Parent Access Account. You will be able to view your child's grades online and receive weekly updates via email.



Frequently Asked Questions

ACADEMICS

What is a GPA? GPA stands for grade point average and it is an average of all of your child's grades.

What is the difference between cumulative GPA and HOPE GPA? Cumulative GPA is an average of all of a student's courses including electives. HOPE GPA only includes grades for English, Math, Science, Social Studies and Foreign Language.

What does earning credits mean? At the end of each semester, students who have a 70 average or higher will receive a half unit of credit for each course. These units are needed for graduation.

How many units are required for graduation? Students will need 24 units to graduate.

How many semesters are in a school year? There are two semesters in a school year (August-December = first semester) and (January-May = second semester). Permanent grades are recorded at the end of each semester.

What is the difference between Honors, Accelerated, and AP courses? All of the courses are designed to provide more academic rigor and to prepare students for college admissions. With AP courses, students can earn college credit while in high school if they pass the AP exam which is offered in the Spring and score a 3, 4, or 5. Honors and accelerated courses prepare students for more rigorous courses in high school and/or college.

Which Honors and AP classes can my 9th grader take? Mary Persons offers Honors 9th Grade Literature, Honors Biology, Honors Coordinate Algebra, Accelerated Coordinate Algebra, and AP World History.

Is PE/Health a required elective? Yes. All students will need to earn one full unit of PE/Health for graduation requirements.

What are promotion requirements for my child? Your child must earn at least 5 units by the end of the 2016-2017 school year in order to be promoted to the 10th grade.

How often will my child receive a report card? Your child will receive a progress report every 4.5 weeks. Your child will receive a report card at the end of each semester.



Will my child take a standardized test in High School? High school students will be assessed using the Georgia Milestones assessments rather than the CRCTs. Ninth grade students will take assessments in 9th Grade Literature, Coordinate Algebra, Biology and Physical Science.

What is High School 101? High School 101 is a course in which most freshmen will be enrolled. Study skills, character education, and time to work on assignments are offered during this class. This course is also utilized to disseminate information and to review graduation requirements and progress.

What can my child do to have a great 9th grade year? Some of your children may have never made less than an "A" before in school or may have never really needed to study for their tests and exams. Your child will need to be disciplined with designing a study schedule for themselves. He/she will need to complete all homework assignments and ask questions when he/she does not understand.