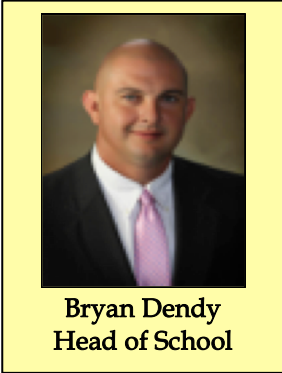


# MAVERICK MONTHLY

## An Update from the Head of School



Second semester has begun, and things are going well. Students and teachers have returned energized and ready to go. Our SAIS accreditation is set for April 8 and 9, and we are getting ready for this important visit. Our board is working to update our by-laws for accreditation. Proposed changes will be presented at a Patrons Meeting on Feb. 4 at 6 p.m. in the gym. Please put this date on your calendar and make plans to attend. Second semester will

be busy, so please go to our website and view the calendar for all upcoming events. Thank you for allowing us to educate your children. We appreciate your support.

## College Credit Courses at Manchester

Manchester Academy's mission statement describes our school as a college preparatory school, and one of the ways MA is fulfilling its commitment to its students is by offering dual enrollment classes. Manchester's dual enrollment courses, offered through Holmes Community College, allow our students to receive credit toward graduation at Manchester as well as college credit through Holmes. This year, several of our seniors will graduate with a total of twelve hours of college credit because of these dual enrollment classes.

Dual enrollment is an excellent way to expose students to the college experience. Some of the classes that our students are taking include English Composition I and II, College Algebra, Speech, Nutrition, and Western Civilization. Taking these courses at Manchester has several benefits. First, students find that taking college classes in

high school eliminates some of the stress encountered later because they become familiar with some aspects of college.

In addition, due to the rising cost of college education, students benefit financially because they pay a fraction of the cost for the same core courses offered on college campuses. Also, many students find that they have the opportunity to receive help from MA faculty members when questions arise, a definite advantage when tackling difficult subjects. Finally, students receive a head start toward attaining a college degree, which benefits them as well as our school and community.

The longest running dual enrollment classes at Manchester are English Composition I and II. Offered since the 2014-15 school year, this course, taught by MA English teacher Carrie Chaney, focuses on the important skill of writing. In the class, students

## UPCOMING DATES

### JANUARY

- Jan. 21 - Winter Break
- Jan. 22 - ASVAB Test for all seniors
- Jan. 25 - MAIS Quiz Bowl Competition  
100<sup>th</sup> Day of School
- Jan. 31 - Junior High Basketball District  
Tournament at Greenville Christian

### FEBRUARY

- Feb. 1 - Basketball Senior Night
- Feb. 2 - Junior High Basketball District  
Tournament at Greenville Christian
- Feb. 4 - Patrons Meeting - MA Gym
- Feb. 5-9 - High School Basketball  
District Tournament at home
- Feb. 6 - Progress Reports
- Feb. 9 - National ACT testing date
- Feb. 11-15 - North State Basketball  
Tournament at Marshall
- Feb. 18 - Presidents Day - School  
Holiday
- Feb. 18 - 22 - State Basketball  
Tournament at Benton

create a variety of essays throughout the year and spend time learning basic research concepts and techniques. Comp I and II prepare our students for college-level writing and teach skills that are necessary for students to be successful in other college courses.

Dual enrollment has become an important educational opportunity for Manchester students. By taking these dual credit college courses, students meet the requirements for high school graduation and get ahead in their pursuit of a college degree. Manchester is dedicated to its college preparatory mission, and dual enrollment is just one way that our school is preparing students for the future.

## Secondary News



Jana Bardwell  
Secondary Principal

Maverick Nation, we have finished our first semester of school. What a ride it has been! Thank you for all of the effort you as parents and students have given to MA. Without YOU, we would not have the best school in the county.

Our ACT scores have improved, as a school, over the past semester. We had a gain of 22 points collectively for the junior class and a gain of 15 points for the senior class.

Our 10<sup>th</sup> graders who took it for the first time in October did a great job! We have no base-line data for the class, so this is our first data point for sophomores. We will continue to increase scores across the board next semester.

Please let me remind you and your children that we offer intervention 3 times during the day. Break, activity period, and 7<sup>th</sup> period are

opportunities for your child to get extra help if he or she is struggling or need reinforcement in a particular subject or skill. We want our students to take advantage of these times that our teachers have set aside for tutorial. A very small percentage of students are receiving extra help. Those that have a low grade or have failed for the semester MUST get extra help. It will be mandatory for them to attend one of these sessions regularly.

We are here to help in any way, but we need students to meet us halfway. I am noticing many students who have much ability but lazy attitudes, and these students lack the responsibility to see their assignments to the end. Parents please watch the amount of time your children spend on Fortnite or other video games, cell phones, and Netflix because this is competing with their academic success.

## Elementary News



Tracy Fouché  
Elementary Principal

Welcome Back!

Manchester Elementary had a very successful first semester, and we are looking forward to an even better second semester. We appreciate all that our students and parents have done to contribute to a great school year so far.

In elementary news, ribbons for report cards were sent home on January 9. Report cards are available to view and can be accessed from the MA website. In addition, letters for parent conferences will be sent home soon. If you would like to schedule a conference with a teacher, please fill out the information and return to school.

In sports news, Pee Wee basketball is in full swing. Please come watch these athletes compete. The schedule for these games is on our school website.

Our local reading fair is the first week of February. Teachers will be sending home directions and rules for our fair. Presentation boards will be available for \$5 in the elementary office. The dates for each grade's projects are as follows: Feb. 4, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades; Feb. 5, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade; Feb. 6, 4<sup>th</sup> grade; Feb. 7, 5<sup>th</sup> grade; and Feb. 8, 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Independent judges will judge boards and conduct interviews. Winners will advance to the District Reading Fair on Feb. 20.

Finally, our annual 100<sup>th</sup> day celebration will be January 25. Watch for details for this fun event!

Thanks for sharing your precious children with us!