Western Sierra Charter Schools

Mountain Home School Charter &
Glacier High School Charter

Personalized Learning Public Charter Schools

August 2019 NEWS revised 8/9/19

~ Fresno ~

Welcome Back to School!

Dear Mountain Home and Glacier High School Families,

We are excited for the 2019-2020 school year! We want to thank all our returning families for their continued trust and welcome our new families! It is our hope we continue to earn your trust as we partner with all of you in working together to plan and participate in your child's education.

First, we would like to talk about some new things this year. Construction has been underway since July and we have new flooring throughout both buildings. In addition we have expanded Room 4 and the reception area no longer has a half wall. As many of you noticed, some offices have moved (Please refer to the table below). Pardon our dust and boxes as we work in cleaning our school.

East Building	**West Building**
MHS Advising Teachers	Rooms 1-6
Parent Workroom (copier, book binding machine, die cuts, butcher paper etc.)	GHS Advising Teachers
Eric Hagen- Principal	Nancy Garcia- Principal
Marianne Lord	Greg Hill - Guidance Counselor
	Phil Blas- Technology Instructor & Coordinator
	Nancy Flynn (Tutor/Instructor Office)
	Brandon Mallard (Instructor Office)
	New Receptionist

We also have new staff! Please welcome Glacier High new teachers Stacey Broussard and Sonny Yang. Ms. Broussard will be teaching our English courses and Mr. Yang will be teaching some of our onsite Math courses. Both will also serve as Advising Teachers. To our Mountain Home School family we would like to welcome Kathy Specht and Susan Huey. Mrs. Specht will be teaching our 4th grade science classes and assisting in the 2nd/3rd grade Science and Kinder/1st classes. Mrs. Huey will be teaching the Beginning Lego Robotics classes and assisting in the 2nd/3rd Reading for Meaning classes and the Kinder/1st classes. We are super excited about all of our new teachers!

Please take a look at both MHS and GHS final onsite class schedules (attached to this Newsletter). One of the biggest changes is moving 8th grade classes to a Tuesday/Thursday schedule. Remember that all of our class offerings are optional, however if your child registers to these classes we ask that their attendance is consistent. 8th grade students will now earn Enrichment Class semester grades. With the exception of Math, all other grades are for reference only and not part of a permanent record. There might be minimal homework assigned by these classes. We hope this will help our 8th grades transition into high school and give parents additional academic feedback. We have also added additional math classes. Mrs. Flynn will now be teaching a Math Course 1, 2 and 3 (for any 6th-9th grade students). Please see your Advising Teacher to determine which math section your child should attend.

Another addition to our Glacier High Schedule is adding Personal Finance, Graphic Design and Conversation Spanish (for those taking Rosetta Stone Silver) classes on Friday. Remember that we do not hold classes on the first Friday of every month. Also, we have added a U.S. History and World History courses that meet A-G Requirements in Social Studies.

We encourage all of you to read through the monthly Newsletters and read all of our Parent Square messages. This will ensure you are up to date with school communication. For all new families, please register with Parent Square. You should have received an invitation to join when you received your first parent square message. Registering with Parent Square and downloading the App for your phone will allow you greater communication with your teacher and our school. Any questions or problems, please contact us!

This summer our district WSCS participated in the first annual Central Valley Homeschool Convention. We were honored to be part of something that served to bring together, educate and strengthen homeschooling families in the Central Valley. We will continue to advocate for “parent-led education” and to work together to honor your goals. Please know that both of us are here to serve you and to work towards and maintain a positive and supportive environment for all.

Eric Hagen & Nancy Garcia

Mountain Home & Glacier Families - Please mark your calendar:

- ❏ Aug 15th - First Day of School
- ❏ Aug 22nd -Back to School Carnival: @ 777 W Shaw Ave Parking Lot 6:30pm-8pm
- ❏ Aug 27th- Mandatory Glacier Day - 9am-2:30pm
- ❏ August 28th- WSCS Board Meeting @ Oakhurst Campus 2pm
- ❏ August 28th- MHS NWEA & LGL Testing 2nd(ELA only) & 2nd-8th
- ❏ August 29th- MHS NWEA & LGL Testing 2nd(ELA only) & 2nd-8th
- ❏ August 29th- GHS Leadership Parent/Student Mandatory Meeting 12pm-12:45pm
- ❏ August 30th -MHS NWEA & LGL Testing 2nd(ELA only) & 2nd-8th
- ❏ August 30th- MHS & GHS ROV (Underwater Robotics) Orientation 11:30am-12:30pm
- ❏ Sep 2nd - Labor Day - School Closed
- ❏ Sep 3rd- First Day of all GHS classes & 8th Grade Classes
- ❏ Sep 4th- First Day of Math Courses 1 & 2
- ❏ Sep 6th - Attendance 1 Due
- ❏ Sep 9th- First Day of MHS Monday Enrichment Classes Sep 11th- First Day of MHS Wednesday Enrichment Classes
- ❏ Sep 11th- GHS Fieldtrip-College Night
- ❏ Sept 12th - WSCS Board Meeting 2:30pm @ Oakhurst
- ❏ Sep 13th- First Day of Friday Classes
- ❏ Sep 20- Picture Day 1 @ 830am-11:30am
- ❏ Sep 26th- Senior/Grad Meeting 4pm
- ❏ Oct 4th- Fresno Fair Field Trip

You can obtain attendance paper forms from the school or download from our website.

http://www.mountainhomecharter.org/attendance-forms.html
http://www.glacierhighcharter.org/attendance-forms.html

Public Notice: WSCS Board Meeting is on September 12th at 2:30pm at our Oakhurst Campus. The agenda will be posted by the front door.

Meeting with Your Advising Teacher

New Families: Your assigned Advising Teacher will contact you to schedule your first meeting. We make every effort to meet with every NEW family before or on August 15th. Typically, the first meeting will take about 2 hours. You will:

- Discuss courses, choose & receive curriculum
- Plan first week of school
- Get questions answered
- Sign additional paperwork
- Get to know your Advising Teacher

Returning Families: Please understand that teachers will need to meet with new families right away. If you're waiting for curriculum, your Advising Teacher can arrange for you to pick this up.

Back to School 2019 Carnival & MHS 25th Anniversary Celebration!
This event is for both MHS & GHS Families

When: Thursday, August 22nd
Where: 777 W Shaw Ave - Parking Lot
Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm

Come celebrate the beginning of the school year and connect with other families too!
A hot dog dinner will be provided, carnival games, and bounce house!

** You will have the first chance to sign up MHS Students to Enrichment classes. See MHS News Section in this Newsletter for more details.

Ways you can help...

- We are in need of cupcake and/or cakes for the "Cupcake- Cake Walk Game" Please email Stephanie Ganzenhuber if you are bringing items for this so we can keep count (sganzenhuber@wscsfamily.org)
- We are also in need of candy. There will be a box labeled "Carnival Candy" placed by each reception area. Simply drop off bags of candy and help support the carnival game prizes :)

A separate Parent Square email will be sent out with more details on this event.

ROV Underwater Robotics Orientation

(Mandatory for all ROV Students)

Date: August 30th 11:30am-12:30pm
Contact Christine Neptune for any additional information- cneptune @wscsfamily.org
*This orientation is for students and parents that have signed up or are interested in finding out more about our ROV program.

Important→ There is a NEW door code.
Contact Your Advising Teacher for code.

Glacier High News...

Calling ALL Glacier Students:

We need GHS students to help run games during the Back To School Carnival on August 22nd. Interested? Please email Mrs. Vaccaro (dvaccaro@wscsfamily.org) by August 20th

Leadership students will receive extra credit

This is Glacier's first event in which you can meet students while helping our school. Once you have signed up with Mrs. Vaccaro, please report to Room 3 the day of Carnival at 6pm. If you have a Glacier T-Shirt, we encourage you to wear it! We need 20 students!

Wondering what goes on in the GHS Student Leadership class?

Come September 3rd at 1pm-2pm- Room 3 to find out!

In fact, this is a **MANDATORY** meeting for ***all*** students who are returning to the Leadership class **or** who are interested in enrolling in it and a parent ***must*** attend as well.

Here's a sneak peek of some of the things Leadership students will be doing in the 2019/2020 school year:

➔ ***Interpersonal Communication & Self-Awareness***—Conflict resolution, personality strengths & weaknesses, team building
➔ ***Public Speaking***—Tone, voice, body language, small & large group presentations, how to Dress for Success, utilizing technology

➔ ***Understanding World Events & Leaders***—Current events, elections, Reagan Presidential Library visit, character traits of great leaders
➔ ***Community Leadership***—Community service & Leadership Projects
➔ ***Leadership Skills for High School and Beyond***—Professionalism, study skills, college visits, school events, resume writing & interview skills.

Join Glacier's Cross Country Team!

If you are at all interested in being part of Glacier's Cross Country team, please sign up to attend info meeting (with parents and students)

When: Tuesday August 13th
Time: 1pm
Location: Room 3
Email Mrs. Ganzenhuber (Coach) ASAP
sganzenhuber@wscsfamily.org

ACADEC TEAM!!

It's not too late to join Glacier's Team! We need you!

2019-2020 Topic:

In Sickness and in Health: An Exploration of Illness & Wellness

**please notify Mr. Boe asap if you intend to participate and let him know you are from the Fresno site.*
bboe@wscsfamily.org

Glacier Day!

is August 27th

MANDATORY for all Students.

See schedule below…

9am-12pm	**9th -11th Graders- report to take Benchmark Test (NWEA)**
11am-12pm	**Seniors report for a Senior Chat with Counselor Greg Hill**
12pm-1pm	**Lunch Provided for all Glacier students**
1pm-2:30pm	**Glacier Orientation/Behavioral Expectations Meeting for ALL Glacier Students**

Counselor's Corner

Welcome to the 2019-20 school year! I hope everyone had a great summer ! I challenge students to chase your dreams and aspire to do your best in all things:
"Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows neither victory nor defeat."
— Theodore Roosevelt, Strenuous Life

Important dates/deadlines to start planning:

- **Glacier Day- Senior Chat - 8/27 11am-12pm (Lunch afterwards and a meeting for all students)**
- **September 26h @ 4pm. I will be going over important information, please attend.**

SAT & ACT COLLEGE READINESS TEST: (4 YEAR UNIVERSITY)

Seniors: Need to take before November. Students planning to attend a 4 year university next fall, you can register for the SAT test at www.collegeboard.com and the ACT test at actstudent.org.

Juniors: They recommend taking the test(s) in the spring as Juniors should take the PSAT NMSQT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) on October 16th.
*Specific test dates/locations to come next newsletter.

PSAT (Practice SAT):

9th, 10th, 11th graders: October 16th, 2019

CSU/UC COLLEGE APPLICATIONS:

California State University & University of California applications open on October 1st! They are both due on November 30. Apply online.

CSU: www2.calstate.edu
UC: www.ucop.edu/pathways
Private University: Deadline varies

Local Community College Applications:

Seniors interested in attending one of our local community colleges should apply with priority registration through the "Registration To Go Program:
SCCCD (Fresno City, Oakhurst Center, Madera Center, Clovis Community, Reedley College)

Local Community College "Registration To Go" steps

1. Application: October
2.. Online Orientation: November
4. Counseling / Advising with Student Educational Plan: Feb/March
5. Registration for classes: April if above steps are completed

FAFSA AND MONEY MATTERS

All seniors planning on attending any college or a vocational school the FAFSA application opens October 1st. www.fafsa.ed.gov

To sign up to any Glacier Onsite Class- let your Advising Teacher know either via email or during your initial meeting. First day of Glacier classes is Tuesday September 3rd.

September 11th GHS Fieldtrip- Fresno Area COLLEGE Night

MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM: • Accredited Vocational Colleges • California State University Campuses • Community Colleges • College Clubs and Organizations • Financial Planning Institutions • Private Universities and Colleges • University of California Campuses

WORKSHOPS INCLUDE: • Admissions • Planning for College Scholarships & Financial Aid ... and much, much, more …

Glacier High will be providing a charter bus for transportation to and from Fresno Convention Center!

Itinerary 9/11:

4pm- Charter Bus Departs from Oakhurst Campus
5pm- Fresno Glacier Students & Parents attending will board Charter Bus
5:15pm- Charter Bus will depart to Convention Center
6pm-8pm- Students and parents will be able to visit the various college related booths and workshops.
8pm- Glacier group will meet at a designated (by Counselor Greg Hill) location.
8:30pm- Depart Fresno Convention Center
9pm- Charter Bus Arrival at our Fresno Resource Center (777 W Shaw Ave)
9:45pm- Charter Bus Arrival at our Oakhurst Campus.

Please note that space is limited and priority will be given to juniors and seniors. Deadline to submit your request for seats on the bus is August 30th.

To request charter bus seats, email Greg Hill at ghill@wscsfamily.org Each student is allowed to bring one parent. Mr. Hill will email you a permission slip and a confirmation of your reserved seat(s).

See Fresno Area College Night Flyer for more details, including how to set up a student college barcode.

Mountain Home News...

Benchmark Testing Information:

Kinder & 1st Grade Students - Sign up to test one-on-one & onsite with Advising Teacher for both English & Math benchmark tests.

2nd Grade students may take their tests either one-on-one with Advising Teacher or during group test sessions from schedule below.

3rd-8th Grade- Sign up to test during test sessions. Select TWO test sessions from schedule below.

Benchmark Onsite Testing Schedule for 2nd grade-8th grade :

- Wednesday August 28th
  - 9am-11am **and/or** 1pm-3pm
- Thursday August 29th
  - 9am-11am **and/or** 1pm-3pm
- Friday August 30th
  - 9am-11am **and/or** 1pm-3pm
- MAKE UP- Wednesday September 4th (GHS & MHS)
  - 9am-11am **and/or** 1pm-3pm

Enrichment Class Sign Up Procedure:

At the beginning of the Back To School Carnival (August 22nd), please check-in with Marianne. She will give you a number card (in order of arrival). Cards will be distributed starting at 6:15pm (and not earlier). Enjoy carnival and report to East Building when your number is called for class sign-up. One of our teachers will be helping you sign up. If you are unable to attend the carnival, you may sign up for classes the next day by contacting your Advising Teacher.

Western Sierra Charter Schools Staff Directory

Fresno Staff

School Phone Number: 559-248-0471
School Fax number: 559-248-0482
777 Shaw Ave
Fresno, CA 93704

Name	Extension	Primary Assignment
Eric Hagen	203	Fresno Principal/Tech Admin
Nancy Garcia	202	Co-Principal Fresno
Marianne Lord	200	WSCS Admin Secretary
TBA	222	WSCS Receptionist
Amanda Patterson	216	Mountain Home Teacher
Brandon Mallard	229	Adjunct Teacher - MHS and GHS
Brook Hirata	204	Mountain Home Teacher
Christine Neptune	210	Mountain Home Teacher/Special Ed
Diane Vaccaro	206	Mountain Home and GHS Leadership
Grace Reeve	201	Glacier High Teacher and MHS Science
Greg Hill	220	Guidance Counselor
Irina Buca	205	Glacier High Teacher
Kathy Specht	225	Mountain Home Teacher
Margaret Den Hartog	207	Mountain Home Teacher
Nancy Flynn	228	Math Adjunct Teacher/Tutor
Nancy Turner	217	Mountain Home Teacher
Phil Blas	218	CTE Teacher/IT Support
Sandra Hammond	215	Mountain Home Teacher
Sonny Yang	208	Glacier High Teacher
Stacey Broussard	224	Glacier High Teacher
Stephanie Ganzenhuber	209	Mountain Home Teacher
Susan Huey	226	Mountain Home Teacher
Michael Cox	(559) 642-1422 ext. 102	WSCS Director
Jody Jeffers	(559) 642-1422 ext. 117	Chief Business Officer
Cheryl Wilhite	(559) 642-1422 ext 100	Administrative Secretary
Machelle Arrington	(559) 642-1422 ext 120	Special Ed Administrator
Sarah Zimmer	(559) 642-1422 ext 123	Speech

Email addresses for all staff are: first initial and last name @wscsfamily.org (no spaces)

Support Staff

Mrs. Gaviria - Spanish; Mrs. Llanos - K Teacher; Mr. Mena - Music; Ms. Kelly Lord - Office and TA; Mr. McGough - Integrated Drawing/Art; Bee Lor- Custodian