



GLACIER High School



MOUNTAIN Home School

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PUBLIC NOTICE WSCS BOARD MEETING

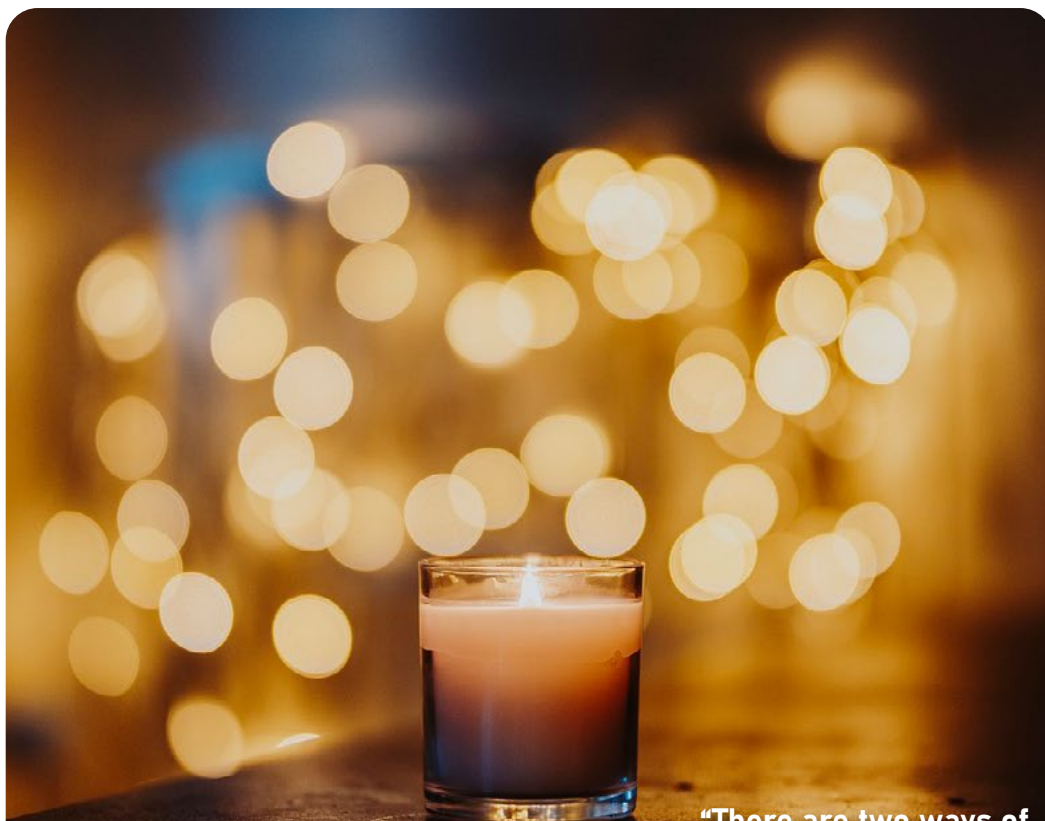
November Board Meeting:
1/16, 3:00pm
at Endeavor Campus
in Room E

This meeting will be held at Endeavor
Charter School.

Can be viewed online at: www.wscsfamily.org/live-broadcast.html For more info go to:
www.wscsfamily.org/board.html

NEWSLETTER

December 2023



**"There are two ways of
spreading light: to be the candle
or the mirror that reflects it."**

-Edith Wharton



IMPORTANT DATES

- - Indicates GHS event
- - Indicates MHS event
- - Indicates both GHS & MHS event

DECEMBER

- | | |
|---|---|
| 12/1 ○● LP 4 End/
Attendance
Due | 12/8 ● MHS Battle
of the Books
Competition in
Madera |
| ○● Academic
Scrimmage
Day | ● Ski School
Online
Registration
Due |
| 12/4-
12/8 ○ GHS Onsite
Classes end 1st
semester | 12/13 ● Last Day of
MHS Math
Classes 5th-8th |
| 12/5 &
12/8 ● Kids Gift
Workshop | 12/14 ● Last Academic
Pentathlon
Class for
Semester |
| 12/5 ○ GHS Christmas
Party | 12/15 ○● Collect
Attendance
for LP #5 -
Semester ends
GHS Grades
due from
parents |
| ● Theater
practice for
showcase | ○ Xmas Break |
| 12/6 ○ Poetry Out
Loud coaching | 12/18-
1/3 ○● MHS
Enrichment
Classes begin |
| ○● MHS / GHS
Winter
Showcase | |

JANUARY

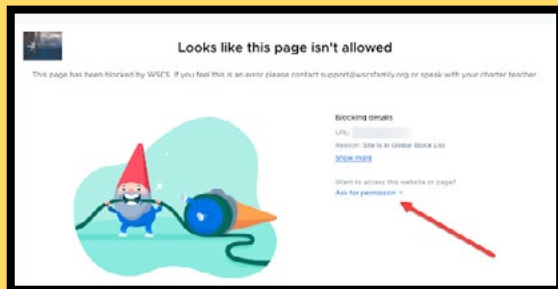
- | | |
|---|---|
| 1/4 ○ Second
Semester Starts | 1/17 ○ GHS Poetry
Out Loud
Competition |
| ○● MHS
Pentathlon and
MHS/GHS
ROV classes
resume | 1/18 ○ Academic
Decathlon
Essay Day
Online |
| 1/8 ● Ski School at
Badger Pass
Begins | 1/19 ● Academic
Pentathlon
Scrimmage |
| 1/8 -
1/12 ○● All GHS onsite
and MHS Math
Classes resume | 1/26 ○● LP #6 Ends/
Attendance
Due |
| 1/10 ○ Poetry Out
Loud coaching | ○ Academic
Decathlon
Subject Test
Day
MCSOS |
| 1/15 ○● MLK Day-No
School | 1/30 ● PE Day for
TK-8 at Camp
Oakhurst |
| 1/16 -
1/19 ● MHS
Enrichment
Classes begin | ○● Staff Meeting
Day - Campus
closed |

MOUNTAIN HOME AND GLACIER HIGH ANNOUNCEMENTS

YouTube Content

If you are using a school-provided device, there is limited access to YouTube. Our IT Department gets about 100 requests each month to open YouTube. Please do not click Ask for permission when you are blocked from accessing YouTube content. Each request results in an email to our IT personnel.

Instead, please ask your Advising Teacher for access to specific content. They will then consult with the IT Department to determine if such links are educational in nature and helpful for our entire student community.



THANK YOU FOR EATING PIZZA!

Because you participated in fundraisers at Pizza Factory in October and Round Table in November, **\$530** has been added to the GHS ASB account! Money from this account goes towards all sorts of great student activities like SPIRIT WEEK, parties, and other events.

Stay tuned for future **RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER** dates and please contact Mrs. Friesen if you have connections to other restaurants. kfriesen@wscsfamily.org

SPIRIT WEEK! 2023 WAS A BLAST!



For more photos or details, please contact Mrs. Friesen: kfriesen@wscsfamily.org

Mountain Home School and **Glacier High School** had a great time celebrating our two schools. The GHS Leadership class planned a fun week of dress-up themes, food challenges, music, prizes, and tons of students and staff joined in the fun.

Dress-up themes included **Pajama Day**, **Dress Like a Really Old Person Day**, **Mustache & Suit Day**, **Crazy Hat Hair & Sock Day**, and **Superhero Day** and prizes were awarded each day for the best-themed costumes. During the lunch break, volunteers participated in food challenges and some of them were really GROSS! Would you want to eat a whole can of Spam, drink a liquified kids' hamburger meal, or eat a can of Vienna sausages? A few brave souls did exactly that - or tried to - and some of them earned prizes for their courage and strong stomachs.

SPIRIT WEEK 2023 might be over, but we can still celebrate being part of the unique endeavor of homeschooling through Mountain Home School and Glacier High School Charter.



MOUNTAIN HOME AND GLACIER HIGH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome our **NEW STAFF MEMBER:** Aaron Kiang!

Mr. Kiang is an IT Specialist who worked in IT support at the Fresno Police Department before he began looking for a change which led him to Western Sierra Charter Schools.

What is the first career goal you remember having as a young person?

I was raised to be a doctor.

Did you follow any part of that original goal?

I did study to be a doctor through high school and a little of college before changing to IT.

What is your family make-up?

I am married with a two kids - My son is 21 and is working and performing in the Color Guard with the Fresno State Marching Band. My daughter is 17 and just

Q&A:

What is the most challenging part of your position?

The most challenging part has been learning all the new educational technology.

What do you like best about your career choice?

I feel like I am in the right place at the right time.



graduated from Hoover. She is now attending Clovis City College. But really, I work to support the cat.

If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

I would love to be able to communicate better.

COME SEE MHS & GHS STUDENTS IN

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

AT THE GOLDEN CHAIN THEATRE

Where: The Golden Chain Theatre

Visit <https://www.goldenchaintheatre.org/> for tickets and more information

When: Friday and Saturday nights
& Sunday matinees
November 17 - December 17

Our mountain community has always included a wealth of talented performers and a good number of them have been Mountain Home School and Glacier High School students. Take, for instance, the cast of the current Golden Chain Theatre (GCT) production of "A Christmas Carol." This version is the Broadway adaptation of Charles Dickens' 1843 Christmas tale and the cast includes our very own Addison Simonich, Roo Shindler, Ava Simonich, and Lilyana Paisano.

In a recent conversation with Mrs. Friesen, Lily said that the first GCT production that she saw was "The Sound of Music" and her response was to immediately get involved with their production of "The Hunchback of Notre Dame." Now, as part of the group "Encore" at GCT, Lily dances and sings for pre-show performances and learns about everything related to the theatre. When asked why she loves being involved with theater, Lily replied, "I get to step out of whatever I'm doing and be whatever I want." Lily has several roles in "A Christmas Carol" including Mrs. Cratchet and a ballroom dancer. So, if you're in the mood for a dose of classic Dickens and want to see MHS and GHS students perform, make your way over to <https://www.goldenchaintheatre.org/> for tickets and more information.

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Digital Citizenship

**What Are Some Basic Gaming and
Social Media Rules
for Elementary Schoolers?**



[Click here to see an article on this topic.](#)

How to Help Kids Balance Phones and Screens with Sleep

Tips for managing TV, tablets, phones,
and tech so your kids can get a good night's sleep.



[Click here to see an article on this topic.](#)



MOUNTAIN HOME SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mountain Home Ski School Deadlines

WHERE: Badger Pass Ski Area, Yosemite National Park

WHEN: Online Registration Due Friday December 8, 2023.

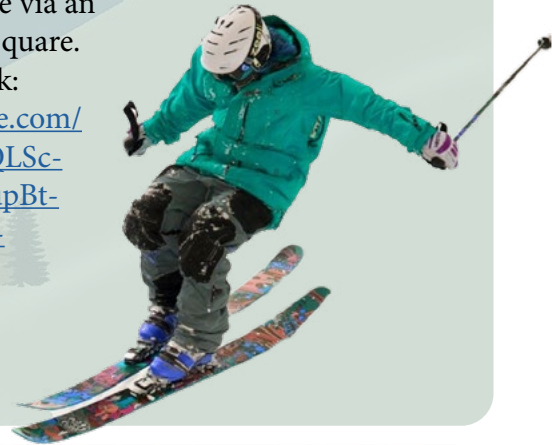
- First Payment is due Wednesday December 13, 2023.
- Additional Paperwork (risk acknowledgement form and updated insurance/emergency contact info) Due Wednesday December 13, 2023.

COST: \$25

DEADLINE TO RSVP/PAY:
December 13, 2023

For more information contact John Sloas at jsloas@wscsfamily.org or 642-1422 ext 110

Our first ski and snowboard day is tentatively scheduled for **Monday, January 8, 2023**. To be enrolled in Ski School you must first **register online by Friday, December 8, 2023**. Additional paperwork (risk acknowledgment form and updated emergency info) are due December 13, 2023. A **first payment of \$25 is due December 13** as well. Pay at the front desk or online via an upcoming ParentSquare. Register at this link:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc-5g0f6Sb4fTphKzupBt-DyN4qXpwxFQA-nO7rdRAfD2G-8G85w/viewform>



ARTSFEST MADERA COUNTY

WHEN: Saturday, May 11, 2024

DEADLINE TO RSVP: Friday, March 8, 2024

More info coming after the winter break.

For more information contact Julie Davis at jdavis@wscsfamily.org

MHS SPELLING BEE! 2024

Where: Mountain Home School Main Building

When: Friday, March 15, 2024

Time: TBD- Times vary depending on grade-level

Deadline To Sign Up:

The digital sign-up form will be posted in February

Word Lists will be available in January. They have been delayed as we wait to hear back from the regional hosts.

For more information, please contact April Hill at ahill@wscsfamily.org



MOUNTAIN HOME SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kids Gift WORKSHOP



WHERE: MHS Main Building
41367 Highway 41

WHEN: December 5 & December 7

COST: FREE for all MHS students (TK-8)

TIME: Sign Ups are closed.



For more information contact
April Hill at ahill@wscsfamily.org,
Sandy De Carli or Mike DeCarli

This is an opportunity for your kids to create a “secret” gift for a loved one. After signing up for a session, you may drop your child off for the duration of the workshop (no parents allowed). The entire MHS staff will work alongside your child in a small group setting to create and wrap two special gifts. These are great gifts for moms, dads, grandparents, and other loved ones.

TIMESLOTS

Session One - Tuesday, Dec. 5 (8:30 to 10:30)

Session Two - Tuesday, Dec. 5 (11:00 to 1:00)

Session Three - Tuesday, Dec. 5 (1:30 to 3:30)

Session Four - Thursday, Dec. 7 (8:30 to 10:30)

Session Five - Thursday, Dec. 7 (11:00 to 1:00)

Session Six - Thursday, Dec. 7 (1:30 to 3:30)



SCHOLASTIC

BOOK FAIR

★ *Thank You for Support!*



Thank you parents, students and staff for a wonderful 2023 MHS Scholastic Book Fair. We raised \$1,100.00 for the Library. Be on the lookout for some fun new books. **Our next fair is scheduled for November 2024.**

Again, thank you so much for your support!





GLACIER HIGH SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

POETRY OUT LOUD



Watch this brief video to see what POETRY OUT LOUD is all about!



For more information contact Mrs. Friesen: kfriesen@wscsfamily.org

POETRY OUT LOUD UPDATE

A great group of GHS students is preparing for the upcoming Poetry Out Loud (POL) competition in January.

Poetryoutloud.org tells us that, "Poetry Out Loud is a national arts education program that encourages the study of great poetry by offering free educational materials and a dynamic recitation competition for high school students across the country. This program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life." At monthly coaching sessions hosted by Mrs. Friesen, participants are learning how to communicate a poem's message and how their recitations will be evaluated. The group also views and discusses some of the best POL recitations from past national competitions to see what is possible, shares poems they are considering, and discusses the most effective ways to present them. Students are now finalizing the two poems they will present at the GHS competition on January 17. The top GHS finishers will move on to the Madera County competition on February 7, and one amazing participant will move on to the CA State Competition in March.

Props to every student on the Poetry Out Loud journey!

Glacier & Endeavor Visit to UCMERCED

Question: How many universities are included in the UC system?

Answer: ONE! There is one UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA that has nine campuses and the newest one in the bunch is UC Merced. That is just one of the many facts that students from Glacier and Endeavor High Schools learned during their visit to UC Merced on November 16. Twenty-nine students took Mr. Hill up on his offer to make the trek to Merced where they heard what collegiate research is all about and important facts about the admissions process before taking a walking tour of the campus followed by lunch in The Pavilion. Another of the highlights of the day was the final session which was a Student Panel with current UC Merced students. Bethany and Jasmine were transparent and funny and answered a lot of questions that our students asked. This visit has us thinking that what UC Merced has to offer just might mean that we'll see future graduates of Glacier and Endeavor becoming UC Merced Bobcats. Huge thank yous go out to Mr. Hill for planning and driving for the trip and to Mrs. Vaccaro, Mrs. Reeve, Mrs. Schiro, and Mrs. Friesen for also driving and attending the trip.





YOUR GHS LEADERSHIP CLASS INVITES YOU TO THE

ALL-GHS CHRISTMAS & END OF THE SEMESTER PARTY!

Tuesday, December 5 5:30-8:00 p.m.
FREE PIZZA AND DRINKS IF YOU RSVP ON TIME!!

★ **MOST CHRISTMAS SPIRIT AWARD VOTED ON BY STAFF**

★ **FUN ACTIVITIES INCLUDING CHRISTMAS JEOPARDY, GINGERBREAD HOUSE CHALLENGE, SANTA SCRAMBLE GIFT EXCHANGE, & MORE!**

★ **WHAT SHOULD YOU DO NOW?**

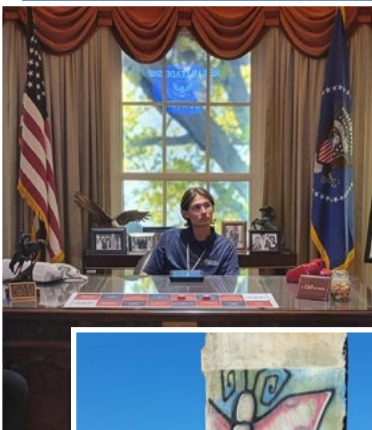
1. RSVP no later than Friday, December 1 - ParentSquare or Email Mrs. Friesen (kfriesen@wscsfamily.org)
2. Bring a wrapped \$5-\$10 gift for the Santa Scramble Gift Exchange
3. Bring a dessert to share! (if you can)





GLACIER HIGH SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

GHS & ECS LEADERSHIP CLASSES DAY at the



GHS LEADERSHIP STUDENTS INSPIRED AGAIN

Some of them didn't even sleep the night before since they had to be at the campus by 4:00 a.m. on November 3, but every single GHS Leadership student on the trip to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley had a great time. The Student Leadership/ASB classes from Glacier and Endeavor have made annual visits to the Library since 2016, with 2020 being the one year that the trip didn't happen. What keeps the group going back year after year? Mrs. Friesen says that it's the quality of the experience and the inspiration that students receive. The Reagan Foundation consistently puts together an experience that every high school student can benefit from whether it is through learning more about Ronald Reagan's life, the role that diplomacy plays in national and international politics, or what it's like to collaborate and

make important decisions when circumstances are stressful. While some of the details of the simulation that students take part in can't be revealed so that future Leadership students can benefit from the full first-hand experience, we can say that when students participate in this simulation of an actual event that occurred during the Reagan administration, they learn more about history, each other, and themselves.

This year's chaperones were Student Leadership teachers Diane Vaccaro and Kaylene Friesen, SPED Coordinator Angela Moons, and Nancy Garcia, who laid the foundation for GHS and ECS Leadership classes. You know it was a successful trip with a great group of students when all of the chaperones say that they're ready to do it again the day after the trip.





COUNSELOR'S CORNER

with Greg Hill

All High School Students - "Counseling Connection"

I am hosting a weekly "College & Career Counseling Connection" for students. It is an informational meeting for high school students every Tuesday morning from 10AM-10:15AM via Zoom. A zoom link was sent out through ParentSquare with information about the topics I will be covering. The topics will include College/Career and postgraduate information. Here are the topics for the months of December and January:

- 12/5 - Alternatives to College
- 12/12 - What to expect in first year of college
- 1/9 - Scholarships / Resources / Financial ABCs
- 1/16 - ASVAB - Military information
- 1/23 - Guest Speaker from Local Business
- 1/30 - Top 5 things you should know before graduating

PSAT Scores:

Test score reports are available now if you took the PSAT. If you need help accessing the report please let me know.

Grad Nite Fundraiser Ideas:

If any senior has fundraiser ideas to offset Grad Nite costs please contact me.

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:
SACCD (Fresno City, Oakhurst Center, Madera Center, Clovis Community, Reedley College)

Local Community College "Registration To Go" steps

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

FAFSA and Money Matters

All seniors planning on attending any college or a career technical school:
The FAFSA application opens October 1st. www.fafsa.ed.gov

Seniors : Local Community Award Scholarships

Look for a ParentSquare coming soon with information about how to apply for our local Community Award Scholarships.

ASVAB Test

10-12th graders. Look for a ParentsSquare with more information about taking the ASVAB test on campus.

GE - Reagan Foundation Scholarship Opportunity:

We're helping to send the next generation of leaders to college. Will you be next?

The GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship offers college scholarships of up to \$40,000 for high school seniors nationwide who showcase leadership, drive, integrity, and citizenship.

Deadline: January 4, 2024.

<https://learnmore.scholarsapply.org/ge-reagan/>

College & Career Spotlight : Nursing

Nursing offers a wide range of career opportunities—from entry-level practitioner to doctoral-level researcher. Nurses are hands-on health professionals who provide focused and highly personalized care. They are also in demand—employment of registered nurses is projected to grow 16% from 2014 to 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Nurses provide and coordinate patient care, educate patients and the public about various health conditions, and provide advice and emotional support to patients and their family members. Although an entry-level nurse can find a job with a 2 or 3-year RN degree, there is a growing national movement to require all nurses to hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. Once you are a nurse, you might choose to focus on a particular specialty. There are numerous specialty options to choose from!

Types of Nurses

Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN): LVNs typically have a certificate or two-year degree and provide basic bedside care to the patients. They are directed by the physicians or RNs and have to work accordingly.

Registered Nurse (RN): RNs have, at the minimum, a two-year or four year degree. RNs have an expanded set of duties and are more frequently employed in hospital settings. They are generally expected to do more critical thinking on the job.

Nurse Practitioner (NP): An NP is an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse who has additional responsibilities for administering patient care than RNs. NPs can prescribe medication, examine patients, diagnose illnesses, and provide treatment, much like physicians do.

Please email me at ghill@wscsfamily.org if you have any questions!

STAFF DIRECTORY

Mountain Homeschool and Glacier High School

41267 Highway 41 • Oakhurst, CA 93644 | Phone 559-642-1422 | Fax 559-642-1592

NAME	EXTENSION	PRIMARY ASSIGNMENT
Denise Alvarez	123	Glacier High Teacher
Courtney Alves	121	Glacier High Teacher
Mike Cox	102	WSCS Director of Schools
Julie Davis	103	Mountain Home Teacher
Kaylene Friesen	122	Glacier High Teacher
Eric Hagen	107	Principal/Tech Admin
April Hill	108	Mountain Home Teacher
Greg Hill	129	Guidance Counselor
Jody Jeffers	117	Chief Business Officer
Denise Jones	100	Receptionist/Registration
Katie Kelly	116	Glacier High Teacher
Kim Meeks	105	Mountain Home Teacher
Ramon Mendoza	113	Accommodations
Angela Moons	120	Special Education Administrator
Mike & Sandy DeCarli	124	Mountain Home Teacher
Diane Neulinger	112	Librarian/Office
Melissa Culver and Aaron Kiang	114	Tech Office
Tiffany Palmer	133	WSCS Account Clerk
Rachel Proto	111	Mountain Home Teacher
John Rumohr	106	Mountain Home Teacher
John Sloas	110	Mountain Home Teacher
Joyce Vind	109	Mountain Home Teacher

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

SUPPORT STAFF

Lisa Boe (Art); Rebecca Brokaw (Spanish); Reghina Crump (ROV); Tamara Dent (Music); Linda Nichols (MHS Math) Barbara Graas (MHS Class); JoAnn Heidebrecht (MHS Class/Tutoring teacher); Sandy Johnson (MHS/GHS Math); Daniel Takanishi (GHS Chemistry); Nick Teddleton (Safety/Supervision Specialist)