

Mooreville High School's TROOPER TIMES

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Journalism students debut school newspaper

By: Callie Lee

Because of recent schedule changes, Mooreville High school students have many new electives to take. One of those is a new journalism class, which is dedicated to creating and publishing a school newspaper.

This new class, Introduction to Journalism, is taught by Mrs. Martin during second period. These students have given the task of publishing our first school newspaper. "My students choose article topics, conduct interviews, write articles and headlines, take photos, and then put it all together into an edition of the school paper," said Mrs. Martin.

There is much suggesting and editing and re-writing involved in what we do. "Newspaper writing is much different than the essay format students are taught in their English classrooms, but my students have

caught on well and figured out the formula pretty quickly," said Mrs. Martin.

Principal Mr. Adam Lindsey chose to add this elective for several reasons. "When the time came to add new electives, I thought journalism would be a great fit for our student body. Having a school paper is also a way for us to reach out to the community and let them know the great things that are happening here at MHS," said Mr. Lindsey.

Mrs. Martin is excited to bring this new opportunity to her students. "I have taught journalism for many years at both Saltillo High and North Pontotoc High. Many of my former students went on to edit or write for their college newspapers

and earned scholarships for their efforts. Just as some students excel in the areas of music, art and athletics, there are also students who are strong, talented writers. Journalism is a great place for those students to shine," said Mrs. Martin.



Honeycutt moves "across the road"

By: Callie Lee

This school year, you may notice a missing presence in the K building. Geometry teacher and soccer coach Baden Honeycutt moved to the elementary school to be the new assistant principal.

He received a great opportunity to work with young children. Due to current changes in schedules and classrooms, the opportunity was open to take. "After praying and talking to my wife, I felt like this opportunity only comes once in a lifetime. Mooreville Elementary is a great school with great teachers and staff. It was a decision that I did not take lightly but God worked all the details for me" said Mr. Honeycutt.



Coach Honeycutt is now known as Mr. Honeycutt in his new role of MES assistant principal.

Mr. Honeycutt is busy practicing his skills with children and learning new things everyday.

His new duties are much different than those of his days of teaching math. "First, I assist the head principal to fill any needs that might arise during the school day. I am also the head of the Title I program, which is the government program that provides funds to schools where more than 50% of students qualify for free or reduced lunch. I am also the TST [teacher support team] chair. We meet and collaborate to discuss strategies to help students who are struggling with academic or behavior issues."

Mr. Honeycutt is fitting in with the younger kids. "I love all kids. When you love working with kids, it is very easy to adapt. Here at the elementary, the admins and teachers are heroes to them."

Don't forget!

Juniors, do not forget to bring your deposit on Wednesday, September 9 if you plan on ordering a class ring. Order forms are available in the office.

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Order Day: Wednesday, September 9th
 Time: 8 a.m.
 Deposit: \$80

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HERd Club holding book drive



HERd Club members Jesse Brooks, Brantley Martin, Jenna Davis, and Kayli Hall pose with some of the books that have been donated.

The HERd Club is collecting new and used children's books to be donated to students who lack books to practice their reading skills at home. If you would like to donate books, please bring them to Mrs. Martin's room. The "HER"d Club is a community service club for girls here at MHS.

New coronavirus precautions affect the classroom

By: Eva Whitworth

Many of the students and teachers started the school year excited after being out for so long, but when they did come back, new precautions and safety measures became part of their daily routines due to the coronavirus.

It did not take long for the students to notice the changes that had been made. "We have to wear masks in the buildings at all times, the teachers are cleaning desks after every class, we use lots of hand sanitizer, we are social distancing and we have less people in our classes," said freshman Jenna Davis.

While wearing masks is a step to preventing the spread of the virus, it can create challenges in the classroom. Spanish teacher Jennifer Gray said, "The masks are both good and bad in my class. Since it is a language class, my students often look at my mouth to practice creating the sounds that I am making. Now that they can't see my mouth, it becomes harder to demonstrate how to make certain sounds with them. At the same time, in today's activity, I needed them to be able to "feel" the difference between the puff of air that we use for certain

sounds in English and I needed to show that this puff of air is absent in Spanish. The masks actually helped us to feel that more easily, so it was help today."

Sanitation measures have increased between classes to make things safer for students. Desks and computers must be cleaned before the next class can use them. "It is hard to get all of my computer stations clean at the end of class, but I believe we should take extra precautions and we are willing to do whatever it takes to keep children in school," stated computer science teacher Patti Williams.



Mrs. Ray cleans her student tables between classes.

Because of social distancing, teachers have had to steer their teaching methods away from group activities. Biology teacher Leigh Ray said, "My teaching style has changed drastically. I strive to create predominately hands-on, interactive classes both physically and mentally. Working in groups promotes deeper thinking and more opportunities for discovering new ideas and concepts. Not only is it more fun, but in the real world, adults are required to work together and problem solve in teams."

Most students have now accepted the guidelines and are just glad to be back in a normal daily routine. "The guidelines do not really have any affect on my excitement about school. They are not a nuisance of any kind." said sophomore Keegan Figueroa.

Federal regulations decide school menus

By: Emma McCollum

Twice a day, Mooreville students enter the cafeteria and are presented with healthy meal options of their choosing. Many might be surprised to find out who makes the day-to-day menu decisions.

The Child Nutrition Menu Planner Evelyn Griechen and the Director of Child Nutrition Valerie Weivoda at the Child Nutrition Office come together to create the lunch and breakfast menus for everyday.

Weivoda explained how different age groups require different meal patterns, and they use those patterns to determine the meals. “A Kindergarten student has a different meal pattern requirement than a 12th grader,” Weivoda said. “In our LCS Child Nutrition office, our menu planner uses these meal patterns and nutrition requirements when making the menus.”

Nearly 29.6 million students eat school lunch nationwide, and nearly 14.77 million eat school breakfast. These students rely on the school nutrition workers to provide these meals for them five days out of every week.

Weivoda went on to explain how school food has actually improved over the years of school nutrition being in place. “School food today has less sodium, less

trans-fats and less sugar than school lunch before 2012.”

In 2010, former First Lady Michelle Obama created the Let’s Move campaign, forcing tighter restrictions on sodium, fat, and calorie allowances in an effort to fight childhood obesity in America. “This program required federally funded school districts to provide more servings of fruit, vegetables, meat/meat alternatives, and grains. It also required 100% of all grains offered to be whole grain-rich, and all milk must be low-fat unflavored or fat-free flavored,” said Weivoda.

A common misconception is that the cafeteria employees make all of the decisions for the meals, but that is not always true. Karen Williams, Cafeteria Manager for Mooreville Middle and High School, explained, “We are responsible for preparing the menu that she [Evelyn Griechen] sends us for the week and making sure that all temperatures are right and then serving it to the students.”

Despite the students’ mixed reviews on the cafeteria food, study shows that the menus now provide kids with the nutrition that they need growing up. Weivoda explained, “Since the program has been established and implemented in schools, a Harvard study showed that children are consuming 16% more vegetables and 23% more fruit at school lunch.”



Cafeteria workers Becky Smith and Mandy Butts measure vegetable servings for a recent school lunch.

Mooreville welcomes new bell schedule

By: Hayes Murphree

At Mooreville High School, students are coming in to new things, including the bell schedule.

This new bell schedule consists of giving the students a later start, the classes being shortened from 90 minutes to 78, and the students getting an early release time.

First, the school is starting 15 minutes later than usual due to coronavirus guidelines. “It allows school to start a little bit later to help with getting everyone on campus and have temperatures checked,” said Principal Adam Lindsey.

Many students are starting to realize how the school’s later start is affecting their school year. “I honestly think the schedule has made my senior year feel a little shorter,” said senior Reed Kyle.

The new schedule is also changing the students’ time in the classroom. “The class times are shortened to allow more time in between classes for transitions and to sanitize classrooms,” said Principal Adam Lindsey.

Although the shortened class times are for the best, some teachers have had a hard time getting used to the new class times. “I have been used to being in class for 90 minutes, so trying to fit my lessons into 78 minutes has been a challenge,” said Creative Writing teacher Amy Vanlandingham.

The school is also having an early let out due to the teachers having distance learners. “The end of the day for students is at 1:53 instead of 3:00 to allow teachers extra time to prepare and implement distance learning,” said Principal Adam Lindsey. The early release time can be a good thing “I like the new schedule because it gives us more time at home to spend with family,” said sophomore Clayton Rupert.



Mrs. Sherry Kingsley takes sophomore Lulu Franks’s temperature before she enters school for the day as sophomore Joe Paul Perkins waits his turn.



MHS athletes, your letter jacket orders are due on Wednesday, September 9. Extra order packets are available in the high school office. .



Order Day: Wednesday, September 9th
Time: 8 a.m.
* Please bring order form & deposit to order.

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Soccer team members chosen

Boys team members:

Martin Boyd
Cooper Goff
Nile Hunt
Matt Murray
Koen Gregory
Aden Patterson
Hagan Allen
Ralph Dickey
Keegan Figueroa
Kody Fisk
Jordan Franks
Max Ray
Tommy Towery
Pearce Turner
John Riley Weeks
Caleb Holladay
Mason McGillivray
Shep Stupka
Brayden Wammack
Keagan Weathersby
Austin Weems
Hayden White

Girls team members:

Melanie Holt
Bitsy Armistead
Olivia Bryson
Jayci Whitt
Lilly Williams
Sadie Downs
Kayli Hall
Hannah Harmon
Lexi Roberts
Caroline Ward
Haley Patterson
Sage Cruise
Mallory Green
Adelin Mathis
Molly Parham
Josephine Pittman
Jordan Springer
Jewel Johns
Anna Grace Ward



Soccer season kicks off on November 5 at home against Corinth.

MHS welcomes Clark into math department

By: Eva Whitworth

The math department of Mooreville High School received a new addition this year with the arrival of Ms. Clark.

Ms. Clark will teach mostly freshman students this year in her Foundations of Algebra and Algebra I classes.

For the last seven years, she has taught at Mantachie High School, but she is very excited to be a Mooreville Trooper. "I absolutely love Mooreville so far. My co-workers have been so helpful and friendly. The kids are so respectful, and they work so hard. I have been welcomed with open arms, and I am so grateful for that."

Ms. Clark loves her chosen career and spending her days with students. "I love making relationships with kids that last a lifetime. I also love working math problems every day. It excites me when I see a student finally understand what we are learning at the time.



Over the past 7 years, I have planned and organized trips for groups of students to take around the country. I absolutely love to take kids on these trips, so they can experience new things."

She also enjoys doing things outside of the classroom. "I have many hobbies outside of school. I love going to the gym, eating Mexican food, and binge watching Netflix. My other hobbies consist of watching my little boy play golf, baseball, and basketball. We also love to go fishing."

Ms. Clark will be working closely with the other algebra teachers this year. Algebra teacher Mrs. Harrell said, "We are so excited to have Ms. Clark at MHS and she is definitely an asset to the algebra department. Her fun personality and hard work does not go unnoticed."

Look for our spotlight of our new science teacher and volleyball coach Abby Cantrell in our next edition!

Mason added to teaching staff

By: Mallory Green

Coach Luke Mason is a new addition to the staff at Mooreville High School this year. He is now the head coach for both the girls and boys soccer teams.

After graduating from Delta State, where he played soccer, he worked a corporate job in his prior years before becoming a teacher and coach. He started his career off four years ago at Provine, an inner-city Jackson school. Last year, Coach Mason was the soccer coach for the middle school boy's team at Tupelo Middle School and for the high school boys at Tupelo High School.

Coach Mason was very optimistic about both teams for this upcoming season and year. "The opportunity to take over a good women's program and a promising men's program was enticing. The opportunity to be a head coach for a high school also seemed like the right move at the time. Coach Honeycutt, Mr. Lindsey, Coach Long, and Coach Doty were all so welcoming that they made me feel like Mooreville was my home even before I officially had the job," said Coach Mason.

Senior forward Jewel Johns is very positive and excited about this year. "I feel that Coach Luke's

knowledge of the game and drive to be successful will help us this season. He has so much experience playing at Delta State as well as coaching. He has a positive attitude and has been super nice so far."

Coach Honeycutt, now known as Mr. Honeycutt, the assistant principal at Mooreville Elementary, expressed how excited he was for Coach Mason and to be able to watch both games instead of coaching. "Coach Mason is a very energetic guy with great knowledge of the game of soccer. I am really excited about getting to watch the soccer games now and just enjoying the game. I am so proud of all my players and I am looking forward to see how much they mature and grow this year," said Mr. Honeycutt.

Coach Mason has been playing soccer ever since he was three years old. Along with coaching high school soccer, he coaches two boys teams for the soccer club, TFC (Tupelo Futbol Club): '03 and '04 boys, ranging from sophomores to seniors in high school.



**Coach
Luke
Mason**

Trooper sports teams see practice changes

By: Kallie Smith

Due to a county wide decision to push up dismissal to 1:53 pm, Mooreville High School sports practices are now being held after school.

Before the Corona pandemic, classes were longer and student athletes only had three blocks of academic courses with the fourth block being sports practice. Because of the pandemic, the school day has been shortened so the school can no longer give student athletes sports for their fourth block. Therefore, all sports have been moved to after school.

Sports after school are having a mixed effect on junior soccer player Molly Parham. "I enjoy sports after school even though I wish they could do them during school hours. Sometimes after school I'm really tired mentally and I don't want to play. Therefore, it makes people's attitudes kind of bad and practice isn't fun," she said.

This new schedule has also affected some sports by cutting into their practice time. "I used to have basketball practice during school and volleyball after school, but now I just have volleyball after school," said sophomore student athlete Lulu Franks.

Basketball coach Jim Tally elaborated on this matter. "The new schedule does not allow us to practice at all until October 12th. Coach Doty and I both drive buses which put us back around 2:40pm, and we aren't allowed to practice after 3:30 pm. On top of that, volleyball is in season and they have priority over basketball right now," said Tally.

Tally hopes to see the schedule go back to normal as soon as possible. "I plan to have tryouts in a few weeks, but we won't be able to get on the floor for after school practices until October 12th. Hopefully this new schedule is only temporary and won't last too long," said Tally.

Having an academic class during fourth block has also been different for the student athletes. During a normal school year student athletes would have sports during fourth block but now they have a fourth class. "My attention span is very short so whenever I'm in class I struggle

a little bit to pay attention," said Parham.

The schedule has had a negative effect on Franks. "I don't like sports after school because I now have four classes instead of three," she said



Sophomore Meliah Senter goes for a pass during a recent after-school volleyball practice.

Harris chosen to lead new program

By: Timothy Le

The staff and students at Mooreville High School recently gained new teacher Tara Harris.

Mrs. Harris originally worked at Mooreville Elementary School for three years. This year, she moved up to the high school and teaches the new Teacher Academy program a class that helps students determine if a career in education is for them. She spends her day teaching these students leadership skills, collaboration with others, and other skills that will help them in their careers in the future.

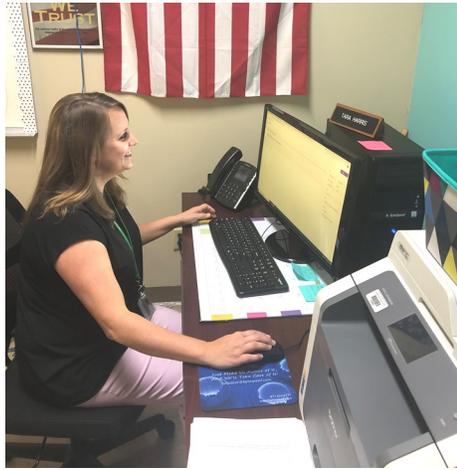
Mrs. Harris, a graduate of Mississippi State University, is very positive about MHS. "The Mooreville school family is amazing. I was at the elementary for 3 years before coming to the high school, and I can say that the staff and students at Mooreville are some of the best around! I have been impressed with how respectful the students are, and the teachers and adminis-

trators are so helpful, kind, and supportive," she said.

For her, the transition from the elementary to the high school was very smooth. "I have learned so much from the 21 years that I taught elementary that moving to high school has been a fairly seamless transition besides the fact that most of the students I teach are taller than me," she said.

Her curriculum was not the only thing that changed. "Planning for high school is a little bit different because I have to remember that they are much more independent. I spent many years opening ketchup packets and milk cartons so being around high school students is a whole different ball game, but so far I'm loving it!"

Like some teachers, Mrs. Harris is teaching at the same school as her sophomore, Caroline. Mrs. Harris does not have a problem with this. "I think she [Caroline] might have at first, but deep down I think she likes having her mom here. I also have a child at the middle and elementary school. They like having their mom close by! I am thankful they get to attend Mooreville Schools!"



Mrs. Harris works on Google Classroom in her classroom located at the end of the K building hallway.

Teachers adjust to new mask rules

By: Regan Hawkins

On August 4, 2020 Governor Tate Reeves issued a state-wide mandate that masks must be worn in all public buildings. Mooreville High School teachers and students are required to wear them all day at school except when eating. MHS teachers are adjusting to the new mandate.

According to science teacher Leigh Ray, masks affect her everyday life in school and in the classroom. "It is annoying. It is especially hard because of the interactive group style learning in my lab. Even with a mask, we are not allowed to work in groups. However, I understand it is important for everyone's safety," she said.

Baseball coach Derek Thompson was shocked at first when he found out masks were going to have to be worn all day. However, he knew it was for the best. "I thought that it was going to be very inconvenient and very uncomfortable. I also thought they were going to be hot, but it's bearable, and if it's for a better cause then I'm all for it," he said.

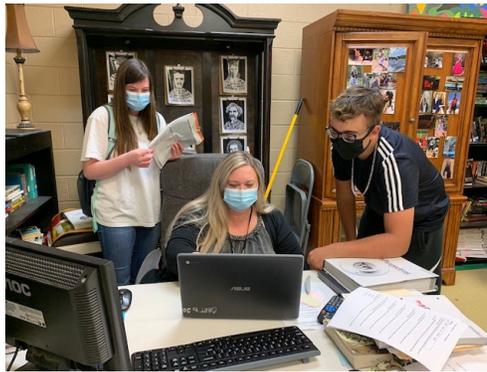
Since students are also required to wear masks at all

times, teaching is affected in a way as well. "I do think it is difficult to interact with students when I cannot see their mouth. Some students are shy and it presents a challenge for them to be confident in sharing in class. Wearing a mask makes it more difficult to understand and hear them. Other students rely heavily on lip reading to hear and comprehend what the teacher is saying," teacher Leigh Ray states.

Teaching and understanding students has been a little different since the mask mandate was issued. "Wearing masks is certainly necessary to keep us all safe, but I miss seeing students' faces. It is sometimes hard to tell if they are engaged in the lesson or not," said English teacher Amy Vanlandingham.

US History teacher Laura Enlow agrees on this matter. She says it affects her daily life in the classroom as well. "It is not easy to teach when you

cannot see the expression on a student's face. In the past, I could sometimes tell if a student is confused by their facial expression, but now that is not always the case. I have had to stop and check for understanding more than in the past."



Mrs. Vanlandingham guides sophomore Amber Pruitt and junior Martin Salinas through a tutorial during 5th period distance learning time.

Troopers set to kick off regular season play

By: Austin Weems

Mooreville football is ready to get their season underway after having a two week delay to fall practice.

Even though outside circumstances have changed, the effort and grit expected from the players hasn't.

Defensive Coach Jeremy Haynes expects big things for the defense, especially from seniors Reed Kyle and Antawn McGaughy. "We need to be better on 3rd and 4th down. Forcing turnovers is nice, but when we get a team to 3rd down, we are thinking punt," he said.

He also thinks the d-line will be better this year. "I believe if we hold our opponents under 21 points, we will win a lot of games," he said.

Coach Russell wants perfect execution on special teams this year. "The goal of the special teams is to do things to win games and not do things to lose games," he said. He doesn't want to give up touchdowns on kickoffs, but maybe return some on kick return. Also, he wants to make 100% or PAT's.

The current starting quarterback is junior Dawson Phillips. Coach Hood wants the quarterbacks to

grow in their knowledge of the offence. "I would like to see Dawson grow more in his pre-snap reads, better understanding of what the defense is doing at the snap of the ball," he said.

Coach Gordon is expecting growth from the o-line this year including starting sophomore guard Braxton Ward. "My goal for the offense line is to limit the amount of pressure and sacks on the QB significantly more than last year," he said.

Head Coach Jimmy Young sees promise in his team during this time of uncertainty. "I feel proud of our our boys' work this offseason and preseason. We have accomplished so much mentally and physically. We have installed everything and are just fine tuning all the kinks out now. We have progressed daily in our valiant efforts to obtain victory on Friday," he said.

The Troopers lost 7-17 in a jamboree game against Amory on Friday, August 28. The varsity played a single half while the junior varsity played one quarter. The Troopers kickoff their regular season September 4th at Kossuth.



Trooper trap team starts second year

By: Taylor Hussey

Beginning last year, Mooreville middle and high school students formed a new sport called the Mooreville Trap Team. The sport consists of shooting shot-guns at clay projectiles that are thrown in the air miscellaneously. The clays are thrown by an automatic machine and the score is determined by how many the participant hit.

Mooreville's Trap Team competes in local competitions against other schools in the area. If the team does well in the local competitions, it has the option of sending its best shooters to state in order to compete for the state title.

Junior Charlie Strawn has gained valuable experience during his two years on the trap team. He mentioned that he loved the sport because it gives him the opportunity to get out and shoot his gun with his friends. "There are new people every time and it is a very relaxed and fun environment," he said.

The sport takes place in the fall. "Practices are the first Saturday of every month between 10:00 and 12:00

at White Tail Ridge," said Coach Pike. She also mentioned that a student does not have to bring his or her own gun, but 12 and 20 gauge ammunition is required.

Coached by Heather Pike, students in 7th to 12th grade can join if they have a good academic and behavioral standing. If a student is interested in joining the team he or she can contact Coach Pike at pikefamily3@gmail.com or call at 662-415-7780. The deadline to sign up is October 1. Members of the team include Haden Bland, Casey Gullett, Taylor Hussey, Charlie Strawn, Peyton Reed, Ben Shumpert, Caleb Pike, Colton Nammie, Cooper McCormick, Kye Norman, Cade Long, and Joe Paul Perkins.



Freshman Drew Baldwin shoots a round of five-stand at a recent trap team practice.

