



# MPA SKYLINER



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

By Remy Guenin

On January 20, 2021, there was a peaceful transition of power that took place in our country. However, as we observe the events that are unfolding in this world, things appear to be anything but peaceful. I marvel at how difficult it is for us, as humans, to simply follow God's original plan which is outlined so clearly for us in the Bible. We continue to look to earthly kings to solve our societal problems when we know that the only King, who can truly save us, is our Heavenly Father. I am reminded of a passage from Daniel 2:21 which states, "And He changeth the times and the seasons; He removes kings and sets up kings. He giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding." God is still in control even in the midst of political strife, a global pandemic, and economic uncertainty. We must look to Him and Him only for guidance and strength during such tumultuous times.

More than ever, our schools are beacons of light, hope, and reason in the midst of a fallen world. MPA had the privilege of opening school this year live and in person and we have been blessed to have the majority of our students here on campus with only seven of them using our off-site Zoom option for instruction. We are also thrilled to report that we had five new students join us in the second semester! God is good! We have, along with the rest of the world, had our challenges this year and have had to cancel a few of our traditional events. However, we have been so greatly blessed and we want to give God all the praise and glory for His goodness to us. Even with all of the challenges and difficulties we have faced this year, MPA continues to educate and minister to our youth.

We are so pleased to have been able to resume having our service days on most Fridays since mid-way through last semester and we were even *Continued on page 3.*

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Student Life

# GIRLS' CLUB CHRISTMAS BANQUET

By Alex Boughman, '24

Christmas Banquet is always an exciting event on campus. Everyone dresses up in their nicest clothes, and often students will buy something special just for the event! The Girls' Club theme, "Movie Red Carpet", was such a clever theme with a great entrance right off the bat. As you walked into the gym, you saw a variety of movie posters, but with our students and staff members' faces photoshopped over the original actors. After you passed through the walkway, you could either go down the red carpet or take a picture at the photo booth, which was very well-decorated. Following the red carpet, students were led to the dining area, which had assigned seats, to the seats they had reserved prior to the banquet.

The food was really tasty and the cafeteria did a great job serving everyone. When we were finished eating, there was a mini talent show provided by MPA students. It was really awesome to see all of the performances. We have some really talented people here at MPA!

Once the entertainment was over, everyone walked to the auditorium to watch a Christmas movie. Girls' Club had set up a concession area where students could get popcorn and candy. The whole banquet was incredible! This was the first banquet and it has set my standards high for next year's Christmas banquet. Next year, the Boys' Club plans the banquet, so they have a lot to do to top the Girls' Club "Movie Red Carpet" Banquet.



**“ I AM THE GIRLS' CLUB PRESIDENT THIS SCHOOL YEAR AND I REALLY ENJOYED HELPING WITH THE BANQUET. EVERYONE SEEMED TO HAVE A REALLY NICE TIME! - SHARON DUQUE, '22 ”**

Student Life

# WE VALUE OUR CAFETERIA WORKERS

By Phillip Thomas, Cafeteria Director

When I was asked to write on the importance of cafeteria workers many things came to mind, the most obvious being that without workers, meals do not get made. Additionally, they have the ability to combine ingredients together to make something tasty. However, I would like to look at something most people do not often think about: how cafeteria workers protect those who eat on campus every day. According to CDC estimates "48 million people get sick, 128,000 are hospitalized, and 3,000 die from food borne diseases each year in the United States." That is a staggering number and most of it comes from mishandling food and not following proper sanitizing protocols.

These diseases are caused by things like not properly washing hands, not cooking dishes to the proper temperature, cross-contamination, and the list goes on. The cafeteria workers at MPA work hard every day to make sure that they are following proper hand washing protocols, that the work areas are clean and properly sanitized, and that fresh ingredients are properly cleaned to remove dangerous bacteria and kept at the right temperature. They make sure that the dishes that are prepared are cooked to the proper temperature to eliminate any bacteria growth in the food that could be harmful. They make sure that the food is held at the proper temperature to keep it safe while serving. When you sit at a clean table, it was a cafeteria worker who washed and sanitized that table to keep you safe. So, the next time you come in to eat at the cafeteria remember that the cafeteria workers are not just feeding you; they are also protecting you.



**"I REALLY ENJOY WORKING IN THE CAFETERIA. I LIKE MY BOSSES, AND MY COWORKERS MAKE WORKING ENJOYABLE. TRASH ROOM IS FUN, AND WE GET A LOT OF FREE SNACKS."**

- VANNDER FLORES, '22



**"WORKING IN THE CAFETERIA IS GREAT! THE PEOPLE I WORK WITH MAKE MY DAY BETTER. WHEN I WALK OUT OF WORK, I ALWAYS FEEL REALLY GOOD AFTERWARD. WORK IS FUN!"**

- MARIANNA KOROLCHUK, '23



**"I HAVE SOME ADVICE FOR FUTURE CAFETERIA WORKERS: WORK SMARTER, NOT HARDER. THE GRIND DOES NOT STOP."**

- HARRISON SINGLETON, '21

*Continued Principal's Message:* able to get out on MLK Day for a special school-wide service day! Especially during these trying times, we feel that it is more important than ever to help out our neighbors here in Asheville. Each day that we are able to stay in session, live and in person, is a gift from God. Our school is buzzing with activity, laughter, and hard work, too. We are making memories that will last a lifetime and our students are getting a Christ-centered education that will help to provide a foundation for a life long relationship with Jesus. We cannot forget to focus on the character formation of our young men and women. It is so important that they grow up in Christ so that they will be able to stand firm for God's purposes. We are blessed at Mount Pisgah Academy to be part of the great work that God is doing to save His children. As the world turns around us, let us continue to pray for peace and the wisdom to allow God to guide us in all that we do!

Student Life

## OUT OF THIS WORLD SA BANQUET

By Emma Boughman, '22

This year, I knew that the Student Association Banquet would be out of this world. As I stepped back to look at what we achieved, I awed at how well everything had come together. As I walked through the curtain door of a giant rocket ship cutout, I was met with a dark tunnel, with black lights bouncing off of a hundred neon stars hanging from its roof. The subtle lights, stars, and swirls in the tunnel led me to a second black curtain, where I walked into the huge dining area. Bright large stars and planets hung from the ceiling, as everyone laughed and just enjoyed spending time together. I had never dreamed that our idea for the Neon Galaxy Banquet would go this well. It is my first year as an SA member, and I was nervous as to how things would turn out, and if the students would enjoy our hard work. However, to our delight, everyone seemed to enjoy all we had planned.

A favorite for many was the food we had prepared, or rather, had them prepare. When everyone sat down at their tables, they filled out an order form for the sauce and toppings they wanted on their own personal pizzas. Once the orders were in, tables were dismissed to head over to the cafeteria, and create their pizzas themselves. "I liked the idea of customizing your own pizza, and I thought that was pretty cool," Alex Boughman, '24, commented. These were no ordinary pizzas either. The students got to pick from tons of topping choices. Along with the pizzas were salad and garlic knots for the appetizer, galaxy cupcakes for dessert, and a super cool lemonade drink that changed colors when it was poured. Everyone really liked the food, because not only was there something for everyone, but there was a unique experience to go with it as well.

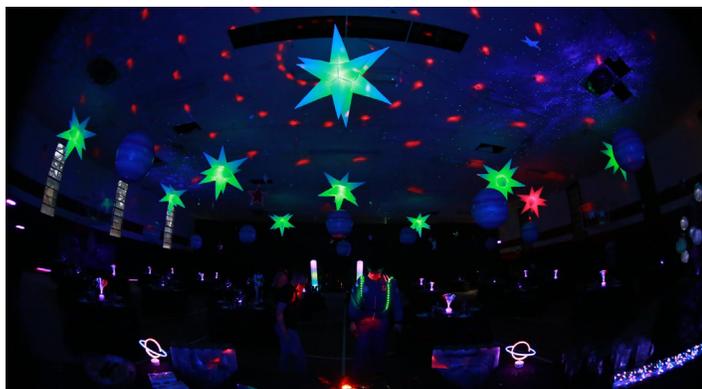
Another favorite part of the banquet was the cardboard astronaut contest. Each table was given various supplies and fifteen minutes to build a cardboard spacesuit onto one of their friends. This activity made the banquet more enjoyable for lots



of students. "It was more interactive than the other banquets and I liked that. We loved decorating our little friend into an astronaut," Becky Amann, '22, mentioned. Once the time was up, all of the astronauts went back into the tunnel, so that they could come out one by one to show off their suits. Katie James ('24), one of the astronaut models stated that "it looked like a sci-fi convention inside the tunnel, because everyone was dressed up." As each astronaut walked out, you could clearly see the creativity and uniqueness of each constructed suit. It was a cool activity for the banquet that made a lot of people laugh and just enjoy spending time together.

My favorite part of the banquet had to have been the decorations. Having the lights off, and the black lights on made everything look super cool. Huge blowup stars and planets hung from the gym ceiling, and the stars flashed different colors. Each table was covered in a black tablecloth, with beautiful light up centerpieces, and space themed plates, napkins, and utensils. Each student even got to keep a drinking glass that had the banquet year and name on it. The tunnel was definitely my favorite part. It felt as though I was stepping into another world, and it was an awesome place for taking pictures. "I really loved all the decorations! It didn't even feel like the gym anymore," Nicole Rivera, '23, excitedly stated. "Looking at the gym the next day confused me, because it really did look like a totally different place than the night before."

The SA Banquet was definitely one of my favorite nights of the year. Even though Covid-19 has been restricting us in some of the activities that we hold here on campus, we were able to make a super fun night for our peers. Although planning this banquet with my fellow members was stressful, it was definitely worth it in the end. Like my brother told me a few days later, "It was out of this world".



# VARSITY SPORTS RETURN

By Tyler Hedges, Athletic Director

The 2020-2021 school year has made running athletic programs an interesting endeavor. Despite the hurdles that Covid-19 has presented, we have been able to provide a positive outlet for students through physical activity. Our Intramural program has been able to run effectively, providing time for teams made up of students and staff to compete in softball, flag football, and volleyball. We were especially happy to be able to run our annual Saturday night softball tournament earlier this year, which is always a fun time for players and spectators alike.

Additionally, our MPA Acrosports team has been continuing to practice and develop skills as a team and as individuals. The team is currently preparing for the large culminating program, Homeshow, later this semester. Creating and performing routines that revolve around the team's theme for this year, Stand Firm, the team will use the show to tell the story of standing firm and having hope in our relationship with God.

Later this spring it is the goal to continue with our Varsity Sports program which has been a great way for students to gain skill and proficiency in volleyball, basketball, and soccer while also learning the important skills of team work, perseverance, accountability, and healthy sportsmanship. Starting in March, it is the hope to continue this program with our Girls' Varsity Soccer Team. The team will compete with other local private high schools, gaining the opportunity to not only play on our field but visit and play at other schools. With soccer being an outdoor sport, we will



be able to compete while also maintaining and upholding the school's Covid-19 protocols and prioritizing student and staff health and safety.

MPA has also taken the opportunity to introduce students to some other alternative activities around campus including using our new disc golf course and playing various racket sports such as pickleball and badminton. Paired with the other sports programs running, we have been able to create and give students wonderful opportunities for physical activity and recreation, adding to the positive and active atmosphere on our campus.



# LOVE IS IN THE AIR FOR OUR STAFF

By Abby King, Marketing Director



Alexis Jones, our English teacher, married Kevin Moraga on November 24, 2020. They had a small ceremony with their immediate families in Miami, Florida, Kevin's hometown. Kevin has joined our campus family and has already enjoyed getting to know our students. It is always so wonderful to have another male role model on our campus. Alexis and Kevin plan to have a larger ceremony with their friends and family in the spring in Alexis' hometown, New Orleans, Louisiana. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Moraga!



Michael Garland, our Co-Director of Plant Services, married Laura Sherwood on December 13, 2020. They had a small ceremony with their friends and family at the MPA SDA Church, where Michael grew up. Laura has joined our campus family and is enjoying getting to know our students. It is so wonderful to have another female role model on our campus. Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Garland!

# WELCOME NEW STUDENTS!



**John C.**  
Freshman  
North Carolina



**Vannder F.**  
Junior  
South Carolina



**Allison G.**  
Junior  
North Carolina



**Chad G.**  
Sophomore  
North Carolina



**Yoav J.**  
Freshman  
North Carolina

# TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER

By Abby King, Marketing Director



## EMMA BOUGHMAN, '22

**WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER?** My favorite teacher is Mrs. Moraga, my English teacher.

**WHY IS THIS YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER?** She is one of my favorite teachers because she actually knows me well. At the beginning of the year, she got to know each of her students' personalities and learning styles. She always makes sure we understand the concepts and she makes learning really fun.

**TELL US ABOUT A TIME WHEN THIS TEACHER DID SOMETHING REALLY SPECIAL.** One time when I came to class, I was having a bad day. She told me that she had a surprise for me, and because we were studying historical literature, we got to analyze some music from one of my favorite musicals - Hamilton.

## AARON GARCIA-OSEJO, '23

**WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER?** My favorite teacher is Mr. Bellchambers, my history teacher.

**WHY IS THIS YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER?** I really like Mr. B because he teaches a really interesting class, World History. I find the concepts really easy to learn and I never want to fall asleep while I am in his class. Sometimes, he will show movies in class, which is really fun.

**TELL US ABOUT A TIME WHEN THIS TEACHER DID SOMETHING REALLY SPECIAL.** This one time, he called one of my friends by the wrong name. It was really funny, and now he always calls him by the wrong name on purpose because it makes the whole class laugh.



# STUDENTS MAKE FIRST SEMESTER HONOR ROLL

### Principal's List - 93% Average

Katherine Ashlock  
Lia Ashlock  
Josh Bedwell  
Emma Boughman  
Alexandra Cauley  
Dana Clifford  
Sharon Duque  
Pricilla Eckright  
Lauren Elliott  
Jacob Garland  
Austin Gonzalez  
Hannah Guenin  
Chloe Harrison  
Kaitlyn James  
Cameron Langford  
Andrew Moyer  
Emily Ottinger  
Sam Ottinger  
Gavin Perez  
Grace Russell  
Elijah Sifuentes  
Jake Steiner  
Chase Warner  
Abbie Wait  
Penelope Whitten  
Hannah Worth

### Honor's List - 88% Average

Evelyn Aguilar-Mendez  
Danny Amann  
Alex Boughman  
Liam Brown  
Grace Bussard  
Michael Bussard  
Joshua Estrada  
Margaret Falcon  
Emma Frank  
Aaron Garcia-Osejo  
Stephanie Garcia-Osejo  
Rachel Hampton  
JoAnna Ketter  
Emmie Lee  
Didier Cortez Rios  
Evelyn Mauricio Vicente  
Jonathan Lopez-Medrano  
Jake Mobley  
Angelina Radchishin  
Luke Scroggins  
Harrison Singleton  
Jesse Stein  
Nathan Suciu  
Seth Wait  
Jonathan Wolff

### Recognition - 83% Average

Becky Amann  
Amyia Betenbaugh  
Jayden Godfrey  
Nate LeBrun  
Gracie McCall  
Jesus Prieto  
Caleb Ramey  
Andrew Reidway  
Markalah Telemaque  
Thai Witherspoon

**WE WOULD LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT THAT 72% OF OUR STUDENT BODY EARNED A SPOT ON OUR FIRST SEMESTER HONOR ROLL LIST. WE ARE PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS AND THE HARD WORK THEY PUT IN EACH DAY TO EARN STELLAR GRADES.**

# STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

By Jo Ottinger, Chaplain

On a cold Monday morning, the 18th of January, Mount Pisgah Academy celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day by mobilizing the entire student body and staff to serve our community through several projects for the entire day. Pastor Jo began the day with worship in the auditorium focused on the historical significance of Dr. King, as well as his desire for people to serve others. After worship, masked & socially distanced, students divided into their service groups for the day.

We are incredibly thankful to JéWana Grier-McEachin, '92, for her motivation and leadership on this very special day. By her efforts and organization, most of our students were able to serve in the Historic Shiloh Community of Asheville. Students helped clean and do minor maintenance items at the Shiloh Community Gardens & Legacy Art Trail. They also packed over 100 personal hygiene bags at the Friendship Community Center in the morning and delivered them to the porches of senior citizens in the Shiloh Community that afternoon. JéWana even invited our local news station, WLOS Channel 13, to video a piece covering their efforts, which ran on the evening news.

We also sent a group of students and staff to the Church of Hope in North Asheville where Yarik Klemovich, youth leader, directed them to paint a very long wall. The wall concealed storage space in the multi-purpose room used for church gatherings, community events and as a gym. The students were thankful for the chance to paint. Several of the students had never painted anything before. The Church was thankful for the painting lessons by MPA staff, Louie Parra and Ed Pelto. The students were efficient in painting and after doing a great job with the wall, they were able to sweep and organize the storage area, making sure everything was returned to its proper place. Principal Remy Guenin reported, "Yarik was so pleased with our kids! I am really proud of them and the work they did!"

Motivated by the success and impact of this year's experiences, Pastor Jo is already looking to next year as we celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day through service to our community. MPA wants to extend a special thanks to Pastor Jo for all his hard work!



SA President's Message

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR SA PRESIDENT

By Gavin Perez, '21

Hello Pisgah! As we enter into our last semester for this school year, I want to remind everyone to keep strong! I know that second semester can sometimes seem daunting since classes often become harder due to the amount of work that has to be accomplished before the end of the school year. Sometimes it can seem scary having to make it through another entire semester before the school finally lets out. It sometimes even feels like we will never make it through the week. However, fear not! The Lord is there for each of you. He is there to be your Rock and He wants you to rely on Him. Micah 7:8 says, "Rejoice not over me, O my enemy; when I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me." We should not let our work and other responsibilities scare us. We should ask the Lord for guidance and to help us do our best in everything we do. We should ask Him to help us rise up.

SA still has a few things coming up that we are excited about, and we hope that you are, too! Remember, rise up!

## CALENDAR

February 24	SA Character Day
March 10	SA Patriotic Day
March 11-21	Spring Break
April 2-3	Mother/Daughter Father/Son Wknd
April 3	SA Talent Show
April 4-9	Junior History Trip
April 4-9	Senior Class Trip
April 11	Junior/Senior Banquet
April 12-15	Student Week of Prayer
April 14	Campus Clean-Up Day

## MUSIC FESTIVAL 2021

Each year, students look forward to the annual Carolina Conference Music Festival held at Mount Pisgah Academy. This year, due to Covid-19, MPA had to make the tough decision to cancel the festival. In lieu of the annual festival, MPA is excited to offer schools another way to praise God through music. Each participating elementary school will sing and record a chosen song featuring their students. The videos will be synced together for a combined musical presentation. Unlike the music festival that is only available to students in grades 4-12, this opportunity is open to all grades. For more information, please contact Nancy Parra at 828-418-2402 or [nancy.parra@pisgah.us](mailto:nancy.parra@pisgah.us)