

Parents, Welcome to the 2009-2010 School Year

Red Mountain High School's mission is to prepare all students to meet the challenges of the 21st Century. Little did we know when the mission was adopted a decade ago, that the challenges of the 21st century locally, nationally and internationally would become mega challenges.

Many times, a daily review of the news leaves us with little hope that times are going to get better. I believe there is a reason for optimism; however, it may be only a narrow window that we must act upon now. Americans are the most creative and innovative people in the world. They have led the way for over a hundred years. The future of our young people relies heavily on education that will nurture the creative and innovative minds of all students both here at Red Mountain and beyond if we have any hope in solving the monumental problems that now sit at our doorstep. Our students need and deserve the best our teachers, parents, and community can provide even in the midst of reduced state funding that will clearly impact class size and the level of support services that we enjoyed in the past. Patience will be critical as we continue to work hard to provide all that Red Mountain has traditionally offered. Allow me to list things that we can do as a learning community to provide the very best for our students.

- Stress the importance of education. A high school diploma and post secondary education is more important than ever before. Without it, most students will be harnessed with a future of low paying jobs and reduced quality of life.
- We need to encourage our students to explore careers that are in high demand for the future. It is not as important as where they go to college as much as it is in what they major.
- Even though we will be challenged to educate with less, many excellent learning opportunities still exist that are specifically designed to provide students with skills they need to be successful.
- Language Arts, Science, Social Studies and Math, are still critical subjects that every student should be enrolled in at Red Mountain. Take advantage of these offerings and make sure your student has six subjects scheduled each semester.
- MPS Parent Portal is the fastest and easiest way for parents to check student grades and class work. Contact the school for a parent experience activation key today.
- Red Mountain's student handbook lists school policies and procedures that are designed to ensure school safety, order, and discipline. Parents and teachers should talk to students about what it means to be a good citizen.
- School attendance and being to class on time is critical. It can be done when it holds the highest priority.
- Parents, use your influence to guide children on internet use and not just police their time.

Sincerely,
Dr. Gerald Slemmer