



Dear Students and Parents,

September 22, 2020 seems like a long time ago, doesn't it? Words cannot express how grateful I am - both to God and to you, our school family - for the blessing of health and safety that has allowed MVC to remain open when many other schools were not.

We're now in the home stretch of a school year that I'm certain none of us will soon forget. Seven weeks of classes combined with a week of Easter Break and a week of final exams will get us to the end of the school year - the finish line for a race well run.

In these final two months, that's our focus: a safe and healthy finish with as many students as possible on campus as often as possible learning well. We'll need to work together to make that happen. Here's what it will entail:

### **Ongoing commitment to health & safety protocols**

Now is not the time to let up on mask-wearing, hand-washing, and physical distancing. Though the CDC has revised their physical distancing recommendations from 6' to 3', Santa Cruz County has made clear that if MVC were to reduce the distancing in our

classrooms at this time, we would lose the ability to contact trace if/when a case of COVID-19 is reported at our school - meaning one case could require a full-school shut-down. We want to stay open and finish the year together - in person! - so we plan to continue with our 6' protocol to protect our ability to stay open.

### **Flexibility for families**

With the reopening of athletics and extracurricular fine arts, many of you are “back up-and-running” at nearly pre-pandemic rates. We want to support those navigating daily practices/rehearsals, as well as those for whom remote learning isn’t sustainable academically and those facing other scheduling challenges. If you find yourself in any of these situations, we invite you to fill out [this form](#) to request permission for your child(ren) to begin daily in-person learning on Monday, April 19. We want to work with you to arrange an on-campus schedule that meets your needs, so please submit your request by Monday, April 5 at 8:00 am and anticipate follow-up from MVC by Wednesday, April 14 with next steps.

### **Err on the side of caution with symptoms and travel**

Whether it’s a COVID-19 symptom or a trip outside California, it’s important that we abide by our County’s health regulations requiring self-quarantine. If you have any questions at any time regarding whether or not quarantine is necessary in your situation, please contact School Nurse [Colette Crawford](#) and she will be happy to walk through [the requirements](#) with you.

We are so close, Mustangs! Together, with diligence, focus, and commitment, I know we can end well. Be encouraged by the blessings we’ve already enjoyed - did you know we are one of only two high schools in all of Santa Cruz County that has been open for in-person learning this school year? Let’s thank God for this gift and do everything we can to protect it in the “home stretch.”

Looking forward to a strong finish,  
Dr. Mitchell Salerno