



THE HURRICANE FORECAST

August 2024 Volume 14 • Issue 3

Publication for the Parents, Students, Staff & Community of Mount Dora High School

"It is going to be a great year in Cane Country as we strive to keep MDHS Empowered for Excellence!"

Welcome Back Canes!

Mount Dora High School is an "A" for the first time in school history!
For the 3rd year in a row, Mount Dora High School is the top rated high school in Lake County!

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Who's Who at MDHS

Principal: Kyle Bracewell

Assistant Principals: Mike Hay, Kimberly Walker, Dr. Catherine Slack and Stephanie Bence

Counselors: Debbie Ortega, Dr. Christie Wilson, Angela Harris

Mental Health Liason: Kim Capstraw

ESE School Specialist: Ted Dwyer

ESE Clerk: Gina Valenti

Graduation Resource: Anjanette Lannon

Literacy Coach: Lizz Schlotter

Data Clerks:

Misi Isbill and Judy Crast

Guidance Secretaries:

Casey Hunt and Phyllis Comitz

Attendance/ Discipline Clerks:

Stacy Carver and Amy Mikler

Main Office:

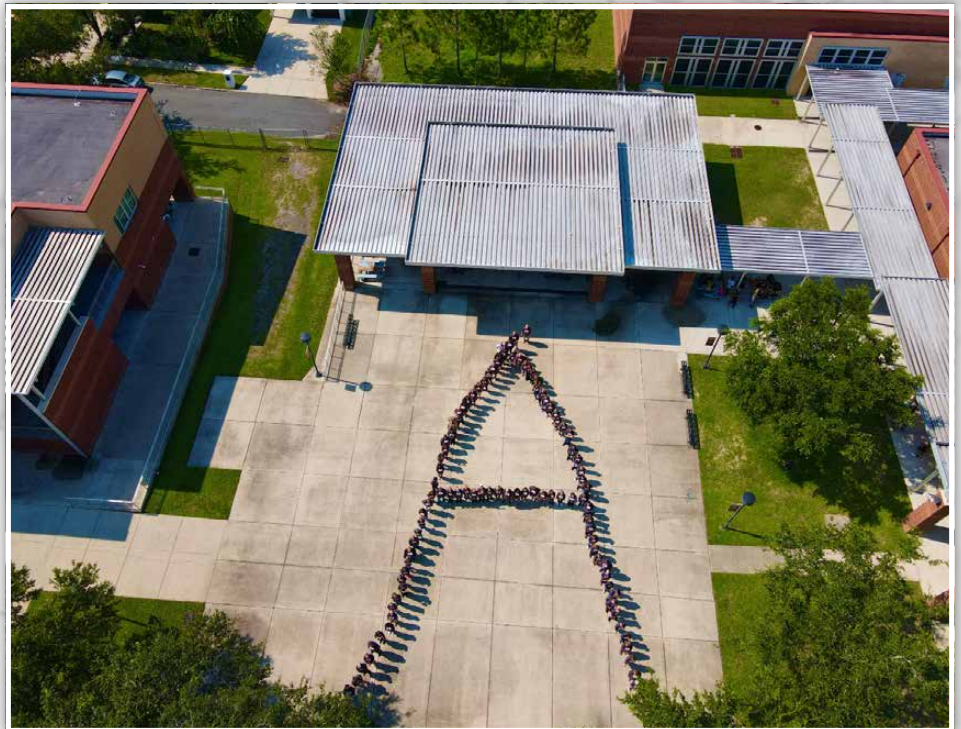
Deb Pfiffner and Jenn Cerce

School Resource Officer:

Cpl. Brooke Mason, MDPD
Officer Robert Thomas, MDPD

School Guardian:

Stive Colas



WE ARE #ONETEAM!



Contact Us

Telephone: 352-383-2177

Fax: 352-383-6466

700 N. Highland Street
Mount Dora, FL 32757

Board Approved: 02.27.2023
LAKE COUNTY SCHOOLS
2024 Student Calendar
 (180 Days)

School Month			Student Days
AUGUST	August 12 August 30	First Day of Classes/First Grading Period Begins (Monday) Non Student Day (Friday)	14
SEPTEMBER	September 2	Labor Day/Student Holiday (Monday)	20
OCTOBER	October 10 October 11 October 14	End of First Grading Period (Thursday) Non-Student Day/Teacher Work Day (Friday) Classes Resume/Second Grading Period Begins (Monday)	8 Total Days 42 14
NOVEMBER	November 11 November 25-29	Veterans Day/Student Holiday (Monday) Thanksgiving Holiday/Student Holiday (Monday-Friday)	15
DECEMBER	December 20 December 23-31	End of Second Grading Period (Friday) Winter Break/Student Holiday (Monday- Tuesday)	15 Total Days 44

2024 FFA News: National Chapter Award

MOUNT DORA FFA CHAPTER of Mt. Dora, Florida, named Star Chapter for 2024 National Chapter Award by National FFA Organization

INDIANAPOLIS (August 9, 2024/National FFA Organization) – The MOUNT DORA FFA Chapter of MOUNT DORA, FLORIDA, has been recognized in 2024 National Chapter Award Program from the National FFA Organization.

The program recognizes outstanding FFA chapters from throughout the country that actively implement the mission and strategies of the organization. These chapters improve chapter operations using the National Quality FFA Chapter Standards and a Program of Activities that emphasizes growing leaders, building communities and strengthening agriculture. Chapters are rewarded for providing educational experiences for the entire membership.

Chapters that received star ratings during judging this summer and will be recognized at the 97th National FFA Convention & Expo, Oct 23-26.

All star-rated FFA chapters receive honors made possible by corporate sponsor John Deere and New Holland.

“New Holland is proud to recognize and celebrate the exemplary FFA chapters that are part of the National Chapter Award Program,” said Mark Lowery, Director of Network Development at New Holland. “They are successfully enriching their communities and preparing FFA members to be the future leaders of our company and industry, which is important work that we are honored to support.”

The National FFA Organization is a school-based national youth leadership development organization of more than 1,027,200 student members as part of 9,235 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

About National FFA Organization

The National FFA Organization is a school-based national youth leadership development organization of more than 1,027,200 student members as part of 9,235 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. For more, visit the National FFA Organization online at FFA.org and on Facebook and Twitter.

About National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Foundation builds partnerships with industry, education, government, other foundations and individuals to secure financial resources that recognize FFA member achievements, develop student leaders and support the future of agricultural education. A separately registered nonprofit organization, the foundation is governed by a board of trustees that includes the national FFA president, educators, business leaders and individual donors. For more, visit FFA.org/Give.

CONTACT: Cindy Bellamy, Advisor Mount Dora FFA
 bellamyc@lake.k12.fl.us | 352-383-2177

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NEWS RELEASE**AFJROTC: Cadet of the Year 2024****Mount Dora High student earns worldwide Air Force JROTC honor**

MOUNT DORA – Cadet Peyton Scott, Mount Dora Air Force JROTC, has been selected as the Air Force/Space Force JROTC Cadet of the Year, marking the first time in the program's 29-year history that a Mount Dora cadet has been selected for this worldwide honor.

He will be formally recognized by Lake County Schools Superintendent Diane Kornegay and the Lake County School Board at an upcoming meeting.

"Cadet Scott is driven, energetic, committed, loyal and trustworthy; he's also humble, kind, respectful, courteous, encouraging and inspirational," said USAF Major (Ret.) Andrew Scott, Senior Aerospace Science instructor at Mount Dora High School. "His impact on our program, Mount Dora High School and the Mount Dora community will be his lasting legacy."

Selection criteria for the honor emphasized cadet leadership and involvement within the unit, school and community, as well as academic performance and citizenship character traits such as dependability, followership, communication skills, motivation, and problem solving skills.

This academic year alone, Cadet Scott amassed 284 JROTC community service hours, a new single-year cadet record for the Mount Dora High School unit. He also motivated 18 other cadets to exceed the 100-hour service hour threshold this year, another record for the program. Additionally, as the Corps Commander, he guided the cadet corps to garner over 8,000 hours of service this year, another record for the program.

Cadet Scott competed against 850 other units from around the world and was chosen ahead of more than 17,000 other cadets to earn the distinction of Cadet of the Year.

"We are all very proud of Cadet Scott," said Mount Dora High Principal Marlene Straughan. "He represents the best of Mount Dora High School and we are confident that he will go on to do great things."

Media Contact: Sherri Owens
Communications Officer
Office: (352) 253-6522
Cell: (352) 267-2104
OwensS@lake.k12.fl.us

For immediate release - May 22, 2024



Cadet Peyton Scott, Air Force/Space Force JROTC Cadet of the Year, Mount Dora High School Principal Marlene Straughan and Lake County Schools Superintendent Diane Kornegay.

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Afrifa News Clip for MDHS

Florida FFA is proud to announce the election of Afrifa Amoah-Mensah as the Area III Florida FFA State Vice President for 2024-2025. Each year, the delegates at the annual state FFA convention elect a team of student officers to lead the organization for the coming year. Serving as a state officer is a distinguished honor held by only a small group of students each year.

Serving as an officer in the FFA is a great accolade. Having the chance to serve as a state officer is an even greater honor and with it comes many opportunities to influence, impact and serve FFA members, advisors, teachers, and supporters of the organization. These opportunities to lead and impact are invaluable and represent what the service to the FFA is all about.

State officers participate and serve Florida FFA in the following opportunities: Base Camp, Planning of State Officer presentations and speeches, participating in the State Officer Summit in Washington, DC with all other U.S. State FFA Officers, attend the Iowa Agricultural Experience, serve as a delegate at the National FFA Convention and Expo. in Indianapolis, Indiana, take part in the ILSSO (International Leadership Seminar for State Officers in Portugal,) meet with agribusiness representatives and government officials, as well as plan and present at the Florida FFA State Convention. Florida FFA state officers have the distinction of meeting over 75,000 Florida FFA members, traveling 300 days of the year, visiting with 350+ Florida FFA chapters and presenting at 25+ workshops throughout their year of service.

FFA is a national organization which emphasizes Agricultural education. This prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resource systems. FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

Afrifa Amoah-Mensah is a member of the Mount Dora High School Class of 2024. He holds a 4.3 GPA. He was a state finalist in Track and Field, served as Captain of the MDHS Varsity Football team, and a bowling team member. He was the highest scoring member in the state of Florida in Vegetable Judging, a state rated team member in Vegetable Judging, Citrus Evaluation, Dairy Judging as well as Nursery and Landscaping Evaluation. His work with Dairy Goats earned him National recognition as a state and National Star Farmer Award, State Proficiency Award Winner and Lake County Fair multiple awards recognitions recipient. We are so very proud to call Afrifa Amoah-Mensah one of Mount Dora High School's Finest!

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Mt. Dora High School ATHLETICS

2024-2025



Athletic Department Contacts

Athletic Department	Name	Email
Administrator of Athletics	Mike Hay	haym@lake.k12.fl.us
Athletic Director	Charlie Cerney	cerneyc@lake.k12.fl.us
Athletic Trainer	Wesley Arrington	arringtonw@lake.12.fl.us

Fall Sports

Sport	Name	Email
Bowling (B/G)	Miriam Mcevoy	mcevoym@lake.k12.fl.us
Cross Country (B)	Cody Adkinson	adkinsonc@lake.k12.fl.us
Cross Country (G)	Cody Adkinson	adkinsonc@lake.k12.fl.us
Football	Luke Hutchinson	hutchinsonl@lake.k12.fl.us
Golf (B/G)	Ted Dwyer	dwert@lake.k12.fl.us
Spirit Cheer	Lizz Schlotter	schlottere@lake.k12.fl.us
Swimming (B/G)	Jeff Service	leahservice@yahoo.com
Volleyball	Kevin Gifford	giffordk@lake.k12.fl.us

Winter Sports

Sport	Name	Email
Weightlifting (G)	Kia Larkin	larkink@lake.k12.fl.us
Soccer (B)	Ryan Eshbaugh	eshbaughR@lake.k12.fl.us
Soccer (G)	Brian Farwell	farwellb@lake.k12.fl.us
Basketball (G)	Kevin Gifford	giffordk@lake.k12.fl.us
Basketball (B)	John Liptak	liptakj@lake.k12.fl.us
Wrestling (B/G)	David Kemmy	Kemmyd@lake.k12.fl.us

Spring Sports

Sport	Name	Email
Weightlifting (B)	Luke Hutchinson	Porchc@lake.k12.fl.us
Softball	Stive Colas	colass@lake.k12.fl.us
Track (B)	Cody Adkinson	adkinsonc@lake.k12.fl.us
Track (G)	Susan Heggie	heggies@lake.k12.fl.us
Tennis (B)	Brennan Guido	guidob@lake.k12.fl.us
Tennis (G)	TBD	
Baseball	Mike Matulia	giffordk@lake.k12.fl.us
Flag Football (G)	Brian Farwell	farwellb@lake.k12.fl.us



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Mt. Dora High School ATHLETICS

Fall Sports Schedules

Lake County Varsity Bowling Schedule

		AMF Leesburg Lanes		Lakeside Lanes		Clermont Lanes	
TBD		VHS @ LHS					
22-Aug	Tu			LHS @ THS		SLHS @ LMHS	UHS @ ERHS
23-Aug	We	MDHS @ LHS	THS @ VHS				
24-Aug	Th				ERHS @ EHS	LMHS @ UHS	VHS @ SLHS
29-Aug	Tu			LHS @ EHS	VHS @ UHS	MDHS @ SLHS	THS @ ERHS
30-Aug	We	SLHS @ LHS	EHS @ VHS				
31-Aug	Th			MDHS @ THS		ERHS @ LMHS	
5-Sep	Tu			VHS @ MDHS	EHS @ UHS	THS @ LMHS	LHS @ ERHS
6-Sep	We		ERHS @ VHS				
7-Sep	Th			UHS @ THS	LMHS @ MDHS	EHS @ SLHS	
12-Sep	Tu			EHS @ THS	ERHS @ MDHS	UHS @ SLHS	
13-Sep	We	UHS @ LHS	LMHS @ VHS				
14-Sep	Th				EHS @ MDHS	LHS @ LMHS	SLHS @ ERHS
19-Sep	Tu			LMHS @ EHS	MDHS @ UHS	THS @ SLHS	
* 2nd Half Teams in full uniforms							
20-Sep	We	THS @ LHS	MDHS @ VHS				
21-Sep	Th			SLHS @ EHS	LHS @ UHS		VHS @ ERHS
26-Sep	Tu			VHS @ THS		ERHS @ UHS	MDHS @ LMHS
27-Sep	We	EHS @ LHS	SLHS @ VHS				
28-Sep	Th			LMHS @ THS		LHS @ SLHS	MDHS @ ERHS
3-Oct	Tu			UHS @ MDHS	VHS @ EHS	LMHS @ SLHS	
4-Oct	We	ERHS @ LHS					
5-Oct	Th			LHS @ MDHS	THS @ UHS	EHS @ LMHS	ERHS @ SLHS
10-Oct	Tu			SLHS @ THS		UHS @ LMHS	EHS @ ERHS
11-Oct	We	LMHS @ LHS	UHS @ VHS	THS @ MDHS			
12-Oct	Th			ERHS @ THS	MDHS @ EHS		
17-Oct	Tu			THS @ EHS	SLHS @ UHS	LMHS @ ERHS	
18-Oct	We		LHS @ VHS				
19-Oct	Th			SLHS @ MDHS	UHS @ EHS	VHS @ LMHS	

* Key Dates: 1st Practice - July 31st. 1st Game - Aug 21st. Last Game - Oct 21st
 * Districts: TBD Will be Oct 23rd - 26th at Lakeside Lanes - Entry Fee \$8.00
 * States: Oct 31st - Nov 2nd at Boardwalk Bowl

Volleyball Schedule

Day	Date	Opponent	Location	JV Time	Varsity Time
Tuesday	8/20	Altamonte Christian	Home	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Monday	8/26	Foundation Academy	Home	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Tuesday	8/27	South Lake	Away	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Thursday	8/29	Eustis	Away	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Tuesday	9/3	Monteverde	Away	4:30 PM	6:00 PM
Thursday	9/5	Altamonte Christian	Away	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Tuesday	9/10	Lake Minneola	Home	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Wednesday	9/11	Leesburg	Away	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Thursday	9/12	Umatilla	Away	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Monday	9/16	South Lake	Home	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Tuesday	9/17	East Ridge	Away	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Thursday	9/19	Umatilla	Home	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Tuesday	9/24	East Ridge	Home	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Thursday	9/26	Tavares	Away	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Monday	9/30	Forest Lake	Away	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Thursday	10/3	Lake Minneola	Away	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Monday	10/7	Leesburg	Home	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Tuesday	10/8	Tavares	Home	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Wednesday	10/9	Olympia	Away	5:00 PM	6:00 PM
Thursday	10/10	Eustis	Home	5:00 PM	6:00 PM

Cross Country Schedule



Date	Name	Location
8/28/24	South Lake Sunet Invitational	South Lake High School
9/7/24 Saturday	MDCA Bulldog Invitational	MDCA
9/14/24 Saturday	Hawks on the Hill Open	Lake Minneola
9/27 Friday	3D Distance Classic	Little Everglades Ranch
10/11-10/12	FSU Pre State Meet	Apalachee Regional Park
10/19/24 Saturday	Hawks Last Chance Open	Lake Minneola
10/26/24 Saturday	Lake Sumter County Championship	East Ridge HS
10/28-11/2 TBD	District	Weeki Wachee Boys Scout Ranch Reservation
11/6-11/9 TBD	Regionals	Weeki Wachee Boys Scout Ranch Reservation
11/16	States	FSU Apalachee State Park

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Varsity Football Schedule

Week	Date	Location	CLASS	Opponent	Mascot	Colors	Bus	KO	
00									
0	8/16/2024	HOME	5A	Lyman	Greyhounds	Blue/Gold	---	7:00	
1	8/23/2024	Away	4A	Sebastian River	Sharks	Blue/Gray	2:45	7:00	
2	8/29/2024	HOME	7A	East Ridge	Knights	Black/Gold	---	7:00	THURSDAY
3	9/6/2024			Bye					
4	9/13/2024	HOME	3A	Bishop Moore	Hornets	Black/Gold	---	7:00	District Game
5	9/20/2024	Away	6A	South Lake	Eagles	Blue/Silver	4:00	7:00	
6	9/27/2024	Away	3A	Atlantic	Sharks	Teal/Black/Gray	3:45	7:00	District Game
7	10/4/2024	HOME	5A	Matanzas	Pirates	Black/Blue	---	7:00	Homecoming
8	10/10/2024	HOME	3A	Tavares	Bulldogs	Red/White	---	7:00	District Game - THURSDAY
9	10/18/2024	Away	4A	Seabreeze	Sandcrabs	Red/White/Blue	3:30	7:00	
10	10/25/2024	Away	3A	Eustis	Panthers	Blue/Yellow	4:30	7:00	District Game
11	11/1/2024	HOME	2A	Villages	Buffalo	Green/White	---	7:00	
Rd. 1	11/8/2024								
Rd. 2	11/15/2024								
Rd. 3	11/22/2024								
Final 4	11/29/2024								
State	12/6/2024								

JV Football Schedule

Week	Date	Location	Opponent	Mascot	Colors	KO	
1	8/22/2024	HOME	Eustis	Panthers	Blue/Yellow	6:00	
2	8/28/2024	Away	South Lake	Eagles	Blue/Silver	6:00	WEDNESDAY
3	9/5/2024	Away	Umatilla	Bulldogs	Orange/Black	6:00	
4	9/12/2024	HOME	East Ridge	Knights	Black/Gold	6:00	
5	9/19/2024	Away	Lake Minneola	Hawks	Green/Yellow	6:00	
6	9/26/2024	HOME	Leesburg	Yellow Jackets	Orange/Black	6:00	
7	10/3/2024	HOME	Tavares	Bulldogs	Red/White	6:00	

Swimming Schedule

Day	Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Thursday	8/22	East Ridge	Home	3:45 PM
Thursday	9/5	Villages	Away	3:45 PM
Tuesday	9/10	Eustis	Away	3:30 PM
Thursday	9/12	Leesburg	Home	3:30 PM
Tuesday	9/17	Eustis	Home	3:30 PM
Thursday	9/19	Umatilla	Away	3:30 PM
Thursday	9/26	Tavares	Home	3:30 PM
Thursday	10/3	Umatilla	Home	3:30 PM
Thursday	10/10	Leesburg	Away	3:30 PM

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THE HURRICANE FORECAST

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2024/25

When to Apply How to Apply Application Follow Up Checking Award Status Student Responsibilities

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- Florida Academic Scholar (FAS)
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- Florida Gold Seal CAPE Scholar (GSC)
- Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholar (GSV)

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Visit www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org and under **First-Time Applicants** select:


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You are responsible for knowing and meeting the requirements of the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program before high school graduation, (tests taken through June 30, application completed by August 31) as well as, throughout your college career.

Check your application and award status on a regular basis.


Make sure that your demographic information is kept up to date on your application.

Keep your "institution of choice" selection updated. This is where your Bright Futures Scholarship award money will be sent.



After submitting an Initial Student Florida Financial Aid Application online, you can:

- Update your demographic information as necessary
- Monitor your Financial Aid Recipient History (award status) online
- Update your "institution of choice"



Visit www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org

For more information, view the Bright Futures Student Handbook:
www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN

Questions?
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Email: QSFA@fldoe.org