Message from the Principal

Greetings and Welcome to the 2021-22 school year! I am Ms. Lockhart, the Proud Principal of Sundown Mountain Alternative School. I am also the Proud Principal of iSchool, serving the District in the capacity of Principal of Alternative Programs.

First, I hope this finds you well. We are happy that you have chosen Sundown Mountain for your educational needs. Sundown Mountain is Dysart Unified’s Alternative Program. We serve students in grades 9-12, who have fallen behind in credits, want to get ahead in credits, or prefer a smaller learning environment. Students must be referred through their home school’s Counseling Office.

Our current population is 200 full time students. The majority of our students are seniors and juniors. We offer all four cores, English, Social Studies, Mathematics and Science, as well as Elective classes, including Work Study.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Take care!

Sincerely,
Bobbie Lockhart, Principal
Ms. Miller

Welcome back to the 2021-2022 school year! I am so excited to have us back on the campus and ready to learn. Students are very quickly navigating their way in their new environment and adjusting to the classes nicely. Currently, I teach Financial Math 1 and Financial Math 2. This course is their fourth (Senior) math credit and in my personal opinion, the most important math course they will take.

In Financial Math 1 we cover Employment, Budgeting, Bank Accounts, Consumer Loans, and Automobile ownership. In Financial Math 2 we have Independent Living, Income Taxes, the Stock Market, Lifecycle Planning (Retirement), and finally, Creating your own Business.

Tutoring is available in the mornings from 8:30-9:30 and by appointment. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at cathi.miller@dysart.org. Excited to get to know the students and have an AWESOME year!

Mr. Carvajal

Welcome back to school.
We are happy to see you again and ready to start the new school year.

This year I will be teaching Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry 1 and Geometry 2. It will be an interesting year full of new knowledge and opportunities to learn some Math.

Again, Wash your hands, keep social distancing and mask up.
If you have any questions, please contact me at angel.carvajal@dysart.org.

Mr. Carvajal

Mrs. Kiecana

Welcome to another great 2021-2022 school year! This year I am very excited to meet all the new students during my teaching of Algebra 3 and Algebra 4 classes every new quarter. I am hoping to make your Algebra learning simple, yet meaningful in order to satisfy your graduation requirement.

In Algebra 3 students will explore Polynomial, Radical, and Rational functions, equations and their respective graphs. In Algebra 4 students will dive into other functions, such as Exponential, Logarithmic, Trigonometric. They will also learn how to solve Systems of Equations containing more than one equation, as well as topics related to Statistics.

I am available for tutoring hours prior and after school. Please contact me at ewa.kiecana@dysart.org should you need additional help outside of the classroom.

I am truly looking forward to another fantastic year at Sundown Mountain!

Mrs. Kiecana
Mrs. England

I am very excited to start the school year and we have really started it off well.

As a reminder to all parents & students- I have emailed you the syllabus and expectations as well as the parent & student signature form as it is done digitally. Additionally- as a reminder- everything can be found in and is submitted via Schoology. I try to minimize use of paper in class.

- Electives- everyone has submitted their choices and should be done with, at minimum, their first unit in their course.

- Government- our first unit is about Citizenship. We will finish this unit on August 13. Unit 2 is about our Foundations of Government (Declaration of Independence, Constitution, etc.). Have you registered to vote yet? Please do so if you qualify.

- World History- our first unit is about World Religions and the Byzantine and Muslim Empires. All of these things are often poorly understood yet profoundly impacted the world around us today. Next we will focus on the Middle Ages and examine how Europe compared to Japan during this time period.

Welcome to the 2021-22 school year. Credit recovery is an opportunity for students to earn credit toward graduation. I have students who are working on different courses throughout the day. Pacing guides are available to students within their course. I assist students with course work, questions, and administer assessments.

I am available for tutoring before and after school. If you have questions please contact me at martha.aranda@dysart.org.

Mrs. Wilfong’s Classroom News

Welcome to Sundown Mountain Alternative program or welcome back. Hope you enjoyed your summer break. My classes this quarter are economics and US history 1. Both of these courses are interesting and so relevant to your life and the current political climate in the United States.

I look forward to working with you and sharing good information about the history of our country and how you use economics daily and don’t even know it. Both of my courses meet requirements for graduation. This fall Ms. Michelle Sciame will be working with you each Thursday as I am undergoing some health issues and have treatments each week.
Mrs. Santacasa’s English Classes

We have collectively made it through a year of unknown; despair for some, anxiety for others, but in the end we had much success here at Sundown.

As we start this new school year of 2021-2022, we hope to have some old normals, mixed with some new normals. We have been working hard to prepare for what we hope will be a memorable year for your students. The first week will be spent pre-testing students and getting to know them. As they settle in, they will begin to explore the English language and its many uses.

I look forward to working with all of you.

Mrs. Kuettel

The year is off to a great start! We completed our reading and writing pretests and have now jump started the curriculum.

English 5 is beginning the survey of American Literature with a focus on the guiding question, “What is the meaning of freedom?” The journey of appreciating and ENJOYING literature and the writing process has begun!

In the elective lab classes, students are taking courses such as Astronomy, Personal Family Finance, Real World Parenting, and Digital Citizenship.

Mrs. Saeed

It is with great enthusiasm that I’d like to welcome both new and returning students to Sundown Mountain for the 2021-2022 school year! I teach Middle School ELA/Social Studies along with Senior English. I will be teaching both English 7 and English 8 consecutively this quarter so students will have ample opportunities to earn their English credits in order to fulfill graduation requirements. In addition to Senior English, I am also the elective teacher for zero period where students can attend class, before school, M-F from 8:30am-9:20am to earn more credits if needed.

I look forward to an exceptional school year with you all!
**Mrs. Skok**

**Electives with Mrs. Skok**
Numerous students are off to a great start on their 1st quarter elective courses. Students have the opportunity to complete 1-2 electives each quarter, depending on their focus and perseverance. All students & parents/guardians are required to sign the electronic signature form for the syllabus. You only need to sign each section ONCE for electives, which goes to all elective course teachers for this school year.

Students were given a “timeline” of due dates showing the best course for a steady pace and completion of their elective on time. Elective scores do not auto-sync to the gradebook, so always look to Schoology for the most up-to-date grades. The IC gradebook, for elective courses only, may be behind about a week for the first few weeks of the quarter as schedules are being updated and moved around. Any questions, please contact me via email.

**CPR Graduation Requirements**
All students are required to complete CPR for graduation. If you are missing any of the requirements, you will be notified and pulled at A&E time to go over the criteria, take a test, and create a video submission of you demonstrating hands-only CPR on an inanimate object. Please make sure you submit your CPR video to Mrs. Skok in the “Electives with Skok” CPR folder. The credit will be listed there and then transferred to your transcript later this year.

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**Mrs. Gorosics**

Welcome to the 2021-2022 School Year! This Fall I will be teaching Anatomy Physiology and Botany Zoology. Each of these classes have labs associated with them, so we will have a lot of hands-on activities going on through September.

Anatomy class will begin studying from the outside inward. The Integumentary System (skin) is the first unit. Then we will focus on the muscle, bone and nervous systems.

Botany Zoology will focus the quarter on plants. We will also be in the lab working with different plants and analyzing their structures. Students will be given a seed to plant as part of the final project and keep it alive until the last day of class.
Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year, I'm Ms. Jones School Counselor for Sundown Mountain Alternative Education Center. As a counselor I'm here to support all students with career, social emotional, and academic counseling. Please know that my door is open anytime you need help. Students needing to meet with me please schedule an appointment via email: tamika.jones@dysart.org.

When scheduling an appointment please include the following information:
- First and Last Name
- Student ID Number
- Home School
- Reason for appointment

I hope that everyone has a successful school year.