



Monument Academy

East Campus

A School of Excellence Since 1996

January 5, 2023

Dear Monument Academy Middle School Families,

As we begin the second semester, the secondary administration team reflected on the first semester. In our discussion, the team started to talk about our past experiences at other schools and how blessed we are to be at Monument Academy because of the the great students, teachers, and families that we get to work with here. For me, Collin Vinchattle, community is what makes Monument Academy such a special place to be. As we move forward into the second semester and into future years, our goal is to grow the Monument Academy community from it's already strong foundation. Our goal is to actively work on cultivating respectful, supportive relationships among students, teachers, and parents.

The core pillars in our vision statement are security, character, connections, growth, and excellence. Monument Academy can not reach these goals without the partnership of our families, and we want you involved here at Monument Academy. If there is something that you feel like you can contribute to build our school community, I would welcome a conversation to see if there is an opportunity to utilize your ideas, time, and/or talent. As a former mentor of mine would always state, "The smartest person in the room is the room." I want to make our room as large as possible.

Staff Bios

7th Grade English/Logic

Mrs. Rich was born and raised in the Great Lakes State, Michigan (Go Blue!). She and her family moved to Colorado from Texas and just recently made Monument home. Mrs. Rich has been teaching for over 15 years. She has taught Special Education, elementary, and middle school and is so excited to call Monument Academy her second home. Her family is a cadet sponsor family for Air Force Academy cadets, which includes her own son and all his friends. In her spare time, she loves to travel with her husband to watch their son play lacrosse for USAFA, read, cook for cadets, and train her unruly golden retriever, Pepper!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 4 | Girls Basketball vs. RMCA (4:00/5:00 pm)
- Jan. 5 | Get the Scoop on Middle School for Incoming Families (6:00 pm)
- Jan. 6 | 8th Grade High School Night (6:00 pm)
- Jan. 9 | Girls Basketball @ Peyton (4:00/5:00)
- Jan. 10 | Watch D.O.G.S. Launch Event (6:00 pm)
- Jan. 11 | Girls Basketball vs. James Irwin (4:00/5:00 pm)
- Jan. 12 | School Board Meeting (6:00 pm)
- Jan. 13 | Girls Basketball @ CSCS (4:00/5:00 pm)
- Jan. 16 | Martin Luther King Day | No School
- Jan. 17 | Girls Basketball @ Banning Lewis (4:00/5:00 pm)
- Jan. 18 | Girls Basketball vs. Atlas Prep (4:00/5:00 pm)



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6th Grade History

Kevin Chalfant is a retired teacher/administrator. He has served in Colorado for 32 years at several schools, mostly in the Colorado Springs area. His B.S. Degree is in history from Trinity International University, north of Chicago. He also has a MA in guidance and counseling from UCCS, with a specialist license in administration. Social studies is his main subject area, with an emphasis on US history and world history. He has taught grade levels from 5th grade to honors US history. During many of those years, he also coached basketball, baseball, and golf. He finished his final years in education as a HS principal and superintendent at two different districts, one in Colorado and one in Virginia. After retiring in 2016, he accepted a teaching position at a charter school in Phoenix, AZ. That is where he experienced the philosophy of Core Knowledge and realized that was a good fit for him. Returning to Colorado to be near his children and grandchildren who all live in the Colorado Springs area, he re-established residency and made Colorado Springs his home base. He has spent the last few years traveling to several countries in Europe, Uganda, and most recently, Peru. He stays busy by helping with grandchildren, church activities, and riding Harley (his horse).

8th Grade English

Hi, my name is Zachery Ricks, and I am excited to be a member of the Monument Academy Core team. I graduated with a bachelor's degree in English and Theater Education from Brigham Young University Idaho. I have a passion for learning and for helping young people learn how to learn, and how to love learning for themselves. For 8th grade language arts, I strive to create a classroom environment that promotes positive connections and learning growth. When I am not teaching, I love to play games, read books, watch movies, and spend time with my wife and children.

8th Grade Science (2nd Period)/Global Trek

Anderson Tremaine was born in Colorado and has spent nearly his entire life living here. He has been a long-time member of the community and appreciates the opportunity to serve its students. This is his first experience working as a full-time teacher and he could not be more excited. He has his bachelor's degree in history, and he loves social studies. Outside of school, Mr. Tremaine loves running, reading, and being outside. Mr. Tremaine has also spent four years as a football coach at Palmer Ridge High School. He is excited to bring his skills and talents to the classroom to help students grow intellectually, academically, and socially.



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8th Grade High School Night

To 8th grade families - it is coming to that time to start thinking about high school. Monument Academy High School will be hosting an 8th grade night for the community to understand what MAHS can offer your student. This event will be hosted this Friday, January 6th starting at 6:00 and lasting until 8:00. This event will provide a tour of the campus, meeting the high school staff, learning about extracurricular activities that are offered, and the academic offerings that are in place for the upcoming 2023 school year. The high school team looks forward to meeting you and providing the information on whether Monument Academy High School is the right fit for your student and family.

Watch D.O.G.S.

The Monument Academy East Campus will be launching our Watch D.O.G.S. program on January 10th at 6:00 PM in the commons. We want you to be a part of this informative event. This night will provide information on the program, what impacts it will have on the Monument Academy community, and how you can get involved. To order the correct amount of pizza, we are asking that you RSVP to the event by clicking on this link [Here](#). If you have any questions, please reach out to Collin Vinchattle.

NWEA Math Testing

Monument Academy will be giving the NWEA math assessment on January 19 and January 20 during the students' math class for all middle school students. This assessment will provide a midyear data point for our math students. This data will be used to inform instruction for the teachers.

Respectfully,

Collin Vinchattle

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Angela Duca

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