



Monument Academy East Campus

A School of Excellence Since 1996

January 5, 2024

Dear High School Families,

It has been an enjoyable week welcoming our students back for the spring semester, and I was pleased to see so many healthy young people filling our classrooms.

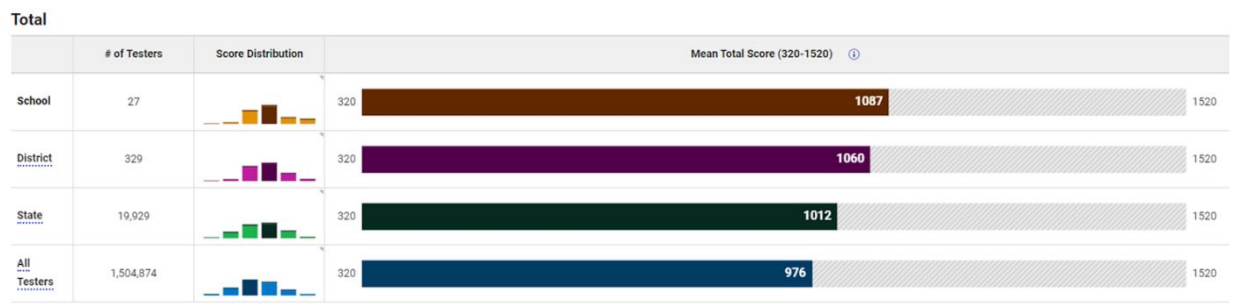
In December, as you all know, a nasty virus decimated our school community. For one point of reference, during finals week we recorded nearly 40 missed exams. In a school of just 118 students, that is a lot of sick kids. Therefore, much of this week was spent reviewing and helping students make up those assessments. Please keep in mind that all make-up exams must be completed by Friday, January 12 when we will officially close out the first semester grading period.

Celebrations

During the all-school assembly on Thursday, I was pleased to share the impressive student performance data we received last semester.

First, in terms of *Academic Achievement* as measured by the Colorado Department of Education's (CDE) School Performance Report, Monument Academy High School students scored exceptionally well on the standardized testing last spring. MAHS students earned an overall "Exceeds" rating, which is the highest mark awarded by the CDE. MA high school's accreditation, through D-38, is considered *accredited with distinction*, by the State of Colorado.

Additionally, in October, to gather beginning-of-the-year performance data, we tested all our high school students in grades 9-11. Our junior's scores were then compared to other schools statewide as well as Lewis Palmer School District D-38. I am proud to report that our students out-performed both the state and D-38 in **every** measure –Mean Total Score, Reading and Writing, and Math.



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Connections and Community

One of our themes this year is *connections and community*. This phrase emphasizes the personal connections we seek to foster in our small, close-knit academic community.



To that end, in this week's student assembly I also gave an aspirational challenge to our student body to more fully embrace the norms and values we collectively agreed upon in our social contract.

I encouraged students to look for ways – every day - to embrace the founding principles of our school, which include fostering *a caring, positive learning environment, helping students become flourishing individuals with a joy for life, and preparing to become active, responsible citizens.*

Those are direct quotes from our mission, vision, and philosophy statements which harken back to the founding of Monument Academy in 1996.

At the high school we seek to continue Monument Academy's proud and long-standing tradition as a school of excellence and an institution which helps produce young men and women of character.

Every day that I serve at this school I feel a sense of honor to be your principal, and I thank you for partnering with us in the sacred duty of educating your children.

Warm regards,

David W. Kennington



David W. Kennington
Principal
Monument Academy High School