Mance Park Middle School

November 2026 Principal Report

Principal Message



Dear Board Members,

Curriculum and Instruction
At Mance Park Middle School, we continue to focus on strengthening Tier 1 instruction and improving student achievement through intentional, research-based instructional practices.

We are continuing our Bluebonnet Learning curriculum fidelity checks in partnership with Region 6. As we move beyond implementation, our conversations are becoming more strategic and focused on two critical questions: Why are we seeing these results, and what are we going to do about them? Our instructional leadership team is working with teachers to analyze student performance, identify instructional gaps, and implement research-based strategies that will move students to higher levels of achievement.

We are also deeply engaged in instructional coaching cycles designed to build teacher capacity. Using the competencies of Get Better Faster and our observation and feedback framework, campus leaders are providing targeted, actionable feedback to strengthen classroom instruction. Our goal is to move beyond simply identifying areas for improvement and ensure teachers receive the coaching and support necessary to improve their practice.

Our November instructional focus is student discourse, with an emphasis on increasing meaningful student conversations, collaborative learning, and opportunities for students to explain and defend their thinking. We want to see students doing more of the cognitive work in classrooms while teachers facilitate purposeful learning experiences.

Mental Health, Behavior, and Wraparound Services

We are piloting a Student Reentry and Transition Plan in collaboration with district behavioral coaches and MTSS personnel to support students returning to Mance Park from Westmoreland Alternative Academy.

This initiative focuses on providing students with a structured transition back to their home campus, including behavioral support, regular check-ins, progress monitoring, and individualized interventions. Our goal is to address the needs that contributed to the student's alternative placement while building the skills and support systems necessary for a successful return.

Ultimately, we want to be proactive rather than reactive, providing meaningful support that reduces repeated disciplinary placements and helps students remain successful at Mance Park.

Safety and Security
Campus safety continues to be a major priority, particularly as we navigate the challenges of serving three grade levels and more than 1,300 students on one campus.

We have increased our focus on ensuring students wear their school-issued identification badges throughout the instructional day. While consistent compliance remains a challenge, we are implementing additional accountability measures, safety sweeps, and student incentives to reinforce expectations.

Our October 22 intruder drill also provided an opportunity to assess our campus safety procedures. Staff responded appropriately, including a teacher who quickly identified an unfamiliar individual and escorted the person to the front office for verification. This reinforced the importance of student identification, staff awareness, and consistent safety procedures.

We are also continuing to evaluate campus operations and student movement. With three grade levels sharing limited space, congestion during transitions remains a concern. Our leadership team is exploring strategic bell schedule adjustments for the spring semester to improve hallway flow, reduce congestion, and strengthen supervision.

Additionally, we are developing designated staff safety stations during transitions to increase adult visibility in high-traffic areas. Although our student population significantly outnumbers available staff, we are working to be more intentional about staff placement, supervision, and administrative presence throughout the building.

Family and Community Engagement
We continue to strengthen communication and partnerships with our families through weekly parent newsletters, campus events, and opportunities for families to remain involved in their students' education.

During October, we welcomed families for our campus Open House and Parent-Teacher Conferences, providing opportunities to connect with teachers, review student progress, and discuss academic and behavioral expectations.

As we enter November, we look forward to additional opportunities to recognize our students, staff, families, and community partners, including our upcoming Veterans Day celebration.

Looking Ahead

As we approach the midpoint of the school year, our focus remains on strengthening instruction, building teacher capacity, supporting student behavior, and improving campus systems.

We recognize that managing a large middle school with three grade levels presents operational challenges. However, we are using those challenges to drive intentional improvements in instructional practices, student support systems, campus safety, and daily operations.

Our work continues to center on creating a safe, supportive, and academically challenging environment where every student has the opportunity to succeed.

Colby Oliphant
Principal
Mance Park Middle School

2026 -2027 Campus Leadership Team

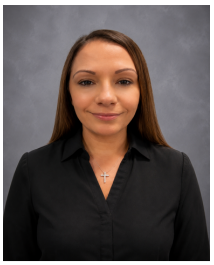


Charly Baker-Jaramillo

Dean of Teaching & Learning



6th Grade Assistant Principal
Aaron Masters



7th Grade Assistant Principal
Lisa Buell



8th Grade Assistant Principal
Dr. DeAteria Akan

2026 - 2027 Counselors



6th Grade Counselor
Toni Thomas



7th Grade Counselor
Leona Abbs



8th Grade Counselor
Jennifer Drake

2026 - 2027 Instructional Coaches



Cleveland Jones
Math Instructional Coach



Alyssa Askew
Science Instructional Coach



Virginia Colley
RLA Instructional Coach

Capturing Kids' Hearts - November Newsletter

This month we're challenging students to work together toward a common goal and shared purpose. We are partnering with you to grow and develop teamwork in your child. We can do this by

modeling gratefulness, acknowledging positive moments, and affirming each other. Use this month's activities to practice working together and celebrate your family as a team.



Capturing Kids' Hearts | Family Newsletter #4

Better Together

Work together to reach a goal.

Capturing Kids' Hearts

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1 Engage: Grateful for You

I am grateful for you! Create a culture of appreciation and gratitude at home by celebrating the best in each family member all month. What you give attention to grows! On a sticky note or small piece of paper, write one thing you appreciate each day about your child and post it on their bedroom door. Doing this will plant seeds in their heads and hearts to help them see good things about themselves.



2 Empower: Walk in My Shoes

Create a culture of appreciation and gratitude at home by celebrating the best in each family member. Have every family member trace one of their shoes, then trade drawings and write three words you admire about that family member on their "shoe." Discuss how each family member brings something great to your family team.



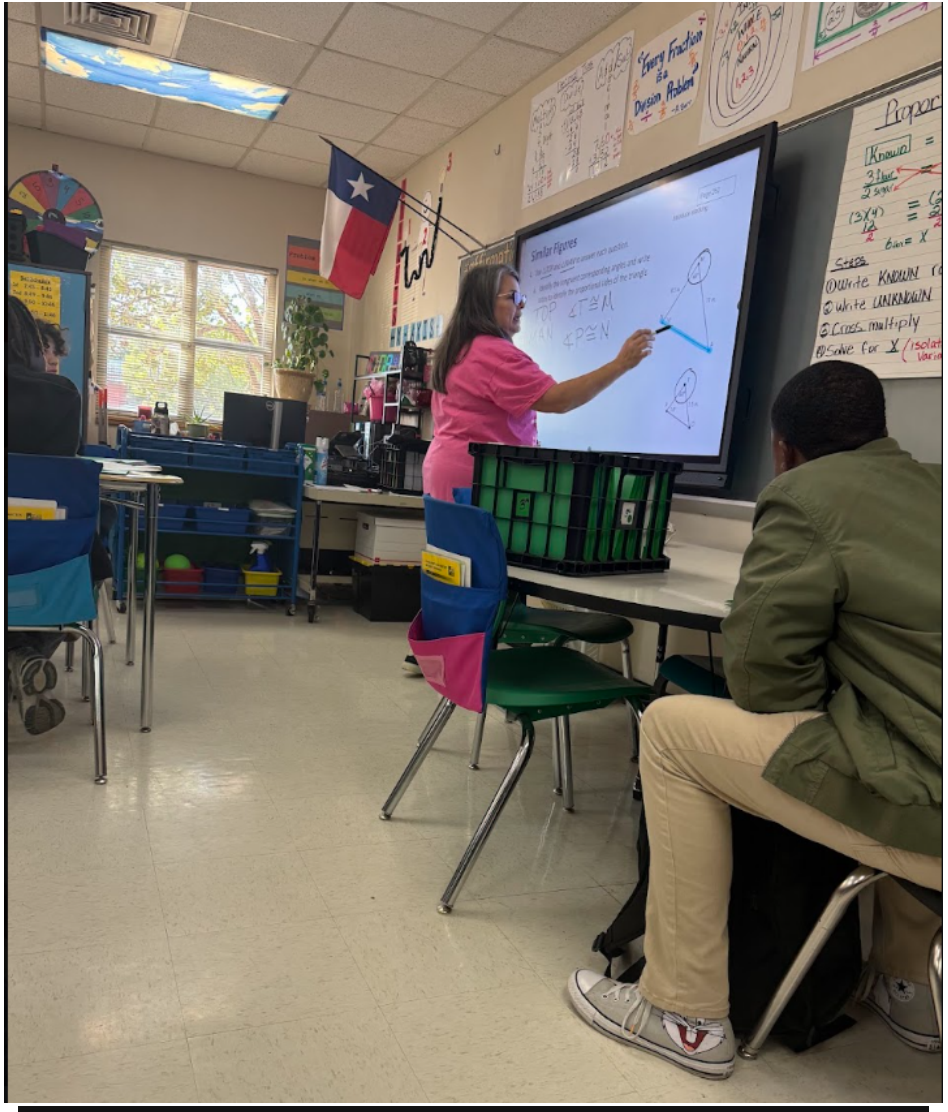
3 Excel: Pay it Forward

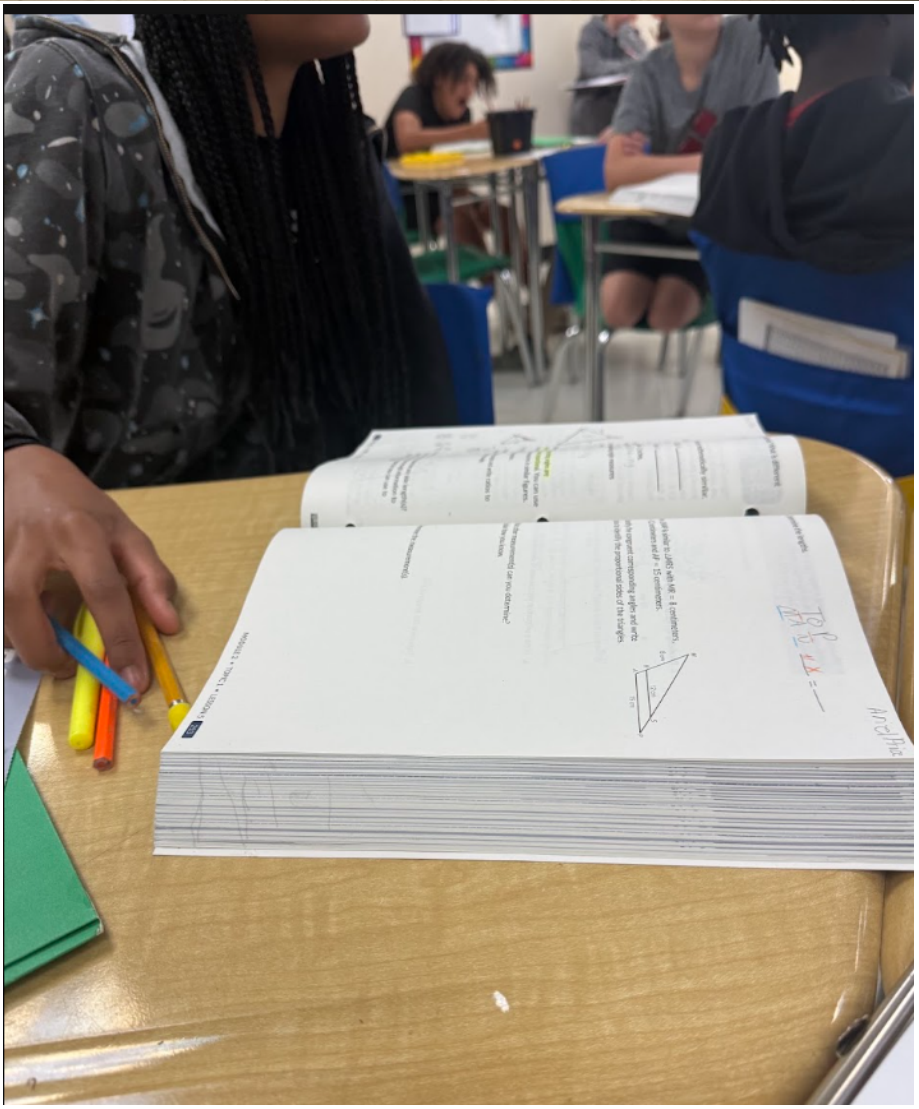
When someone does something nice for you, do something nice for someone else. Doing this is a wonderful way to continue the cycle of gratitude. "Paying it forward" is a way of showing love and kindness to others. It could be something as simple as holding the door open for someone or buying coffee for a stranger. Once a week, share as a family one time you "paid it forward" during the week.

Conversation Starters

- What is the best affirmation or compliment someone has ever given you?
- What are some things we are lucky to have but sometimes complain about them?
- What is your favorite family memory?

Academic & Instructional Highlights

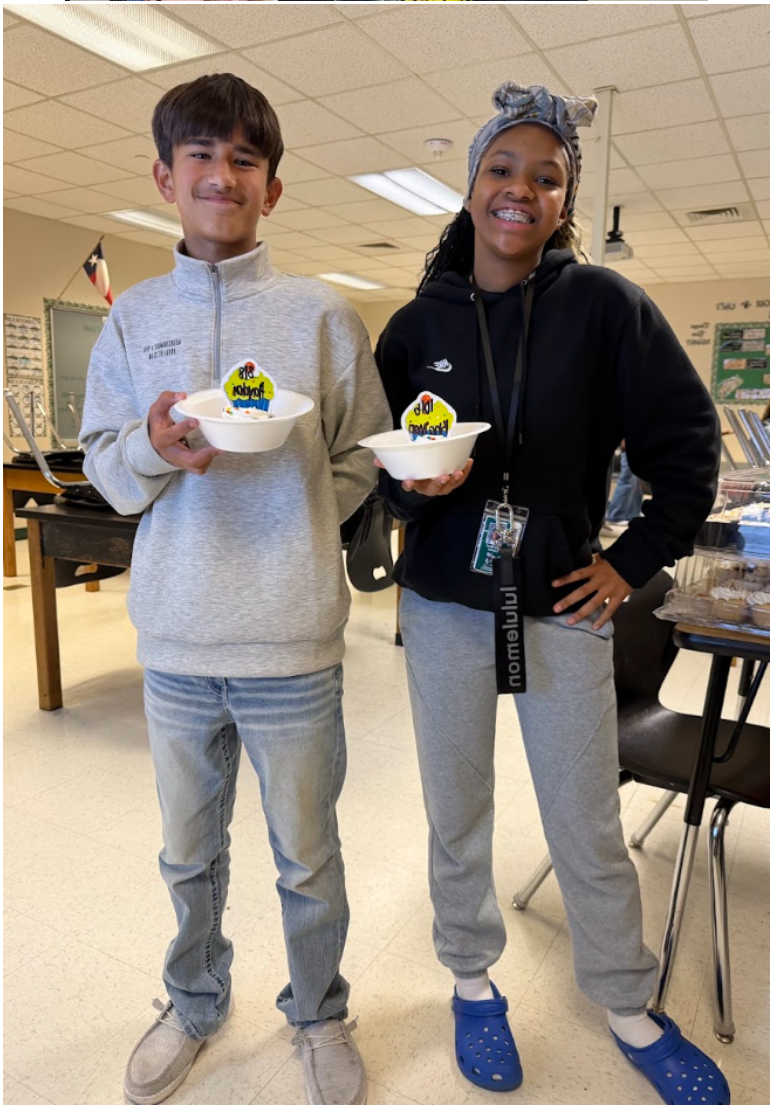

Every Fraction is a Division Problem
Similar Figures
Proport
Known
Write UNKNOWN
Cross multiply
Solve for X



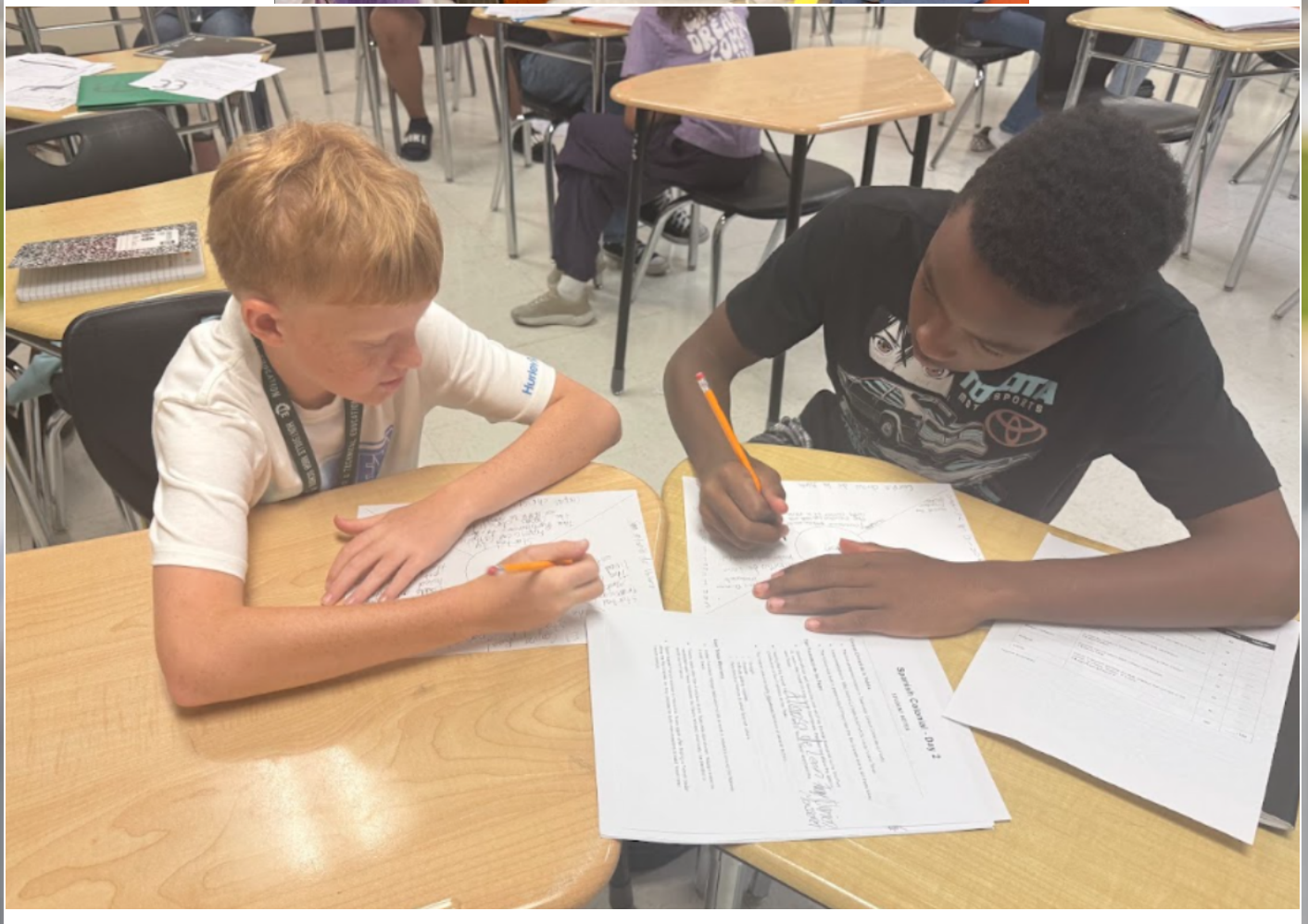

ROMANA
Kisses
ELVIS
Phil Robertson
BB KING
SELENA




PHOTOJOURNALISM
CHRIS BROWN

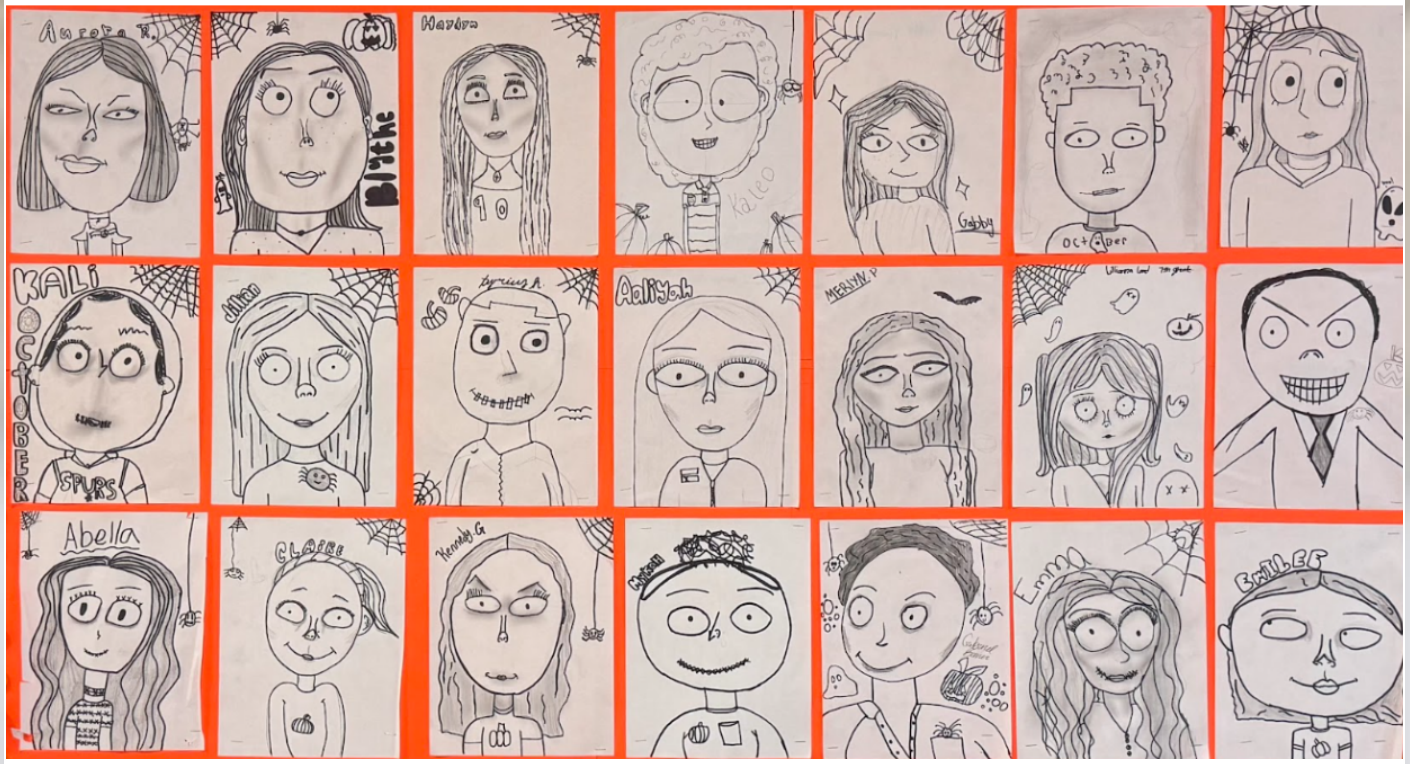

lululemon








American Revolution
LOWMAN EDUCATION



Bluebonnet Learning Secondary Math

As we introduce Bluebonnet Learning in our math classrooms, we want families to have resources to better understand what students are learning and how they are learning it.

[MPMS Bluebonnet Learning Family Resource Page]

Athletics & Student Activities Highlights






142
139
38


HUNTSVILLE ISD ST


HORNETS
17


Riddell
91
91


NPMS


CHAMPION
Student
CASE HOOKS
WIESNER
CHEVROLET
BUICK
GMC
HUNTSVILLE





Campus Activity Highlights



RED RIBBON WEEK

BE KIND. BE BRAVE. BE DRUG FREE.

MANCE PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
CRAZY SOCK DAY	TWIN DAY	WEAR RED	NEON DAY	WEAR HORNET OR SPORTS TEAM GEAR
"SOCK IT" TO DRUGS	"TWO COOL FOR DRUGS	"WE ARE RED-Y TO SAY 'NO' TO DRUGS"	"TOO BRIGHT FOR DRUGS"	"TEAM UP AGAINST DRUGS

HORNETS — MAKE GOOD CHOICES. BE A HORNET. — HORNETS

IN HONOR OF OUR VETERANS

Students and Veteran family members are invited to

A Veterans Day Breakfast

Provided by

Mance Park Methodist Partnership

Wednesday, November 11, 2026

7:00 am to 7:45 am

Mance Park Library



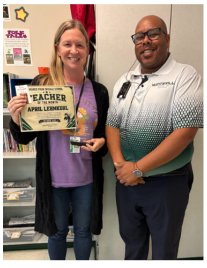



onal Counselor & Former School Counselor
Schedule your appointment today!
OREO
Chips Ahoy!



We are so grateful for the continued support of our community partners. Their generosity, time, and commitment to Mance Park Middle School help us create meaningful opportunities for our students and staff. We truly appreciate their partnership and investment in our Hornet family!

October Employee Recognitions



Teacher of the Month
April Lehmkuhl



Employee of the Month
T'Aliyah Woodberry

Office Staff Member of the Month
Toni Thomas

Student of the Week Recognitions

Week 12

6th Grade
Alisson Reyes
Nominating Teacher: E. Walker

Alisson is always on task and doing what she needs to be doing, even when nobody is watching.

7th Grade

John Gallaway

Nominating Teacher: H.Tcacenco

He is determined to do his best in class. He follows class expectations.

8th Grade

Alice Casanova

Nominating Teacher: Sowell

Great student, great attitude, great role model for MPMS.



Colby Oliphant
Colby is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters