

Robert L. Merritt Junior High School

THE MERRITT GAZETTE

Christopher Turner, Principal

Mary L. Giles, Assistant Principal

Latoshia Lewis, Counselor

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January 2021

“Equitable Education for Every Student”

Principal’s Message

Greetings Parents!

We hope that each one of you have enjoyed the holidays and stayed safe throughout the season. We are ready to continue strengthening our students' academic performance for the second half of this school year. As always, we ask that you help us by ensuring that your child or children are logging in all classes everyday. This step will tremendously help with attendance and the overall performance of our students. We will be rewarding our students with trophies for perfect attendance and we will continue rewarding our students for academic performance. We understand that virtual learning is a little difficult for our students, but we will continue to do our best to provide quality instructions to our students. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the school and we will be glad to help. Thank you for choosing Merritt!

**One School...One Team...One Goal!
Student Achievement!**

Parent Center Corner, Geraldine Ray

Happy New Year! Let's continue to practice safety and social distancing as we enter a new year. Please continue to wear your mask and wash and sanitize your hands regularly. Remember, we have different ways you can be involved in your child' education. Such as: Active Parents, School Status, and Canvas. You may reach me through e-mail at gray@sunflower.k12.ms.us. **My hours are: Monday from 7:00 A.M.- 4:00 P.M. Tuesday-Thursday 7:00 A.M.-3:30 P.M. and Friday 7:00 A.M. -3:30 P.M. However, I will adjust my schedule to accommodate you.**

Assistant Principal’s Message

Welcome to a new year!

We have accomplished many challenges this school year, but I want to challenge students to attend school daily and master daily assignments. Even though we are attending school virtually, our expectations include excelling academically and improving emotionally and socially. If you are facing any hardships that may be causing you to not be successful in attending school or completing assignments, please contact an administrator or the counselor. Educating students as well as keeping students safe are key concerns of ours. Thank you, parents, for helping us accomplish so many goals. We need your continued support in ensuring your children are attending classes, completing assignments, and engaged in learning. Our second nine weeks benchmark assessment will be at the end of January and our goal is to be successful. **Help us be successful!**

The McKinney-Vento Act

When a family becomes homeless, there are two issues that usually occur with the affected children, 1) student attendance decreases and 2. financial situations destroy students' interest in school. The SCCSD recognizes the importance of education for all children and has adopted the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act that addresses the needs of homeless children. This policy aids with homeless students so that they can continue to be educated despite the challenges they face. If you know of families with children who are homeless, please contact the Homeless Liaison at RLMJH, Geraldine Ray at (662) 884-1270 ext. 317. Your call could be of great assistance to a family in need. For more information visit Website: <http://www.serve.org/nche> or E-mail homeless@serve.org



Counselor Corner, Latoshia Lewis

Let's Talk about Attendance: Every School Day Counts!

Yes... Mom and Dad, Auntie or Uncle, Grandma or Granddad: Every single school day counts Why? I am so glad that you asked! Research shows that attendance is an important factor in student achievement. What does that mean? It basically means that when your child is present, virtually at this present moment, but nonetheless, present, your child is given a greater chance to succeed academically. One cannot learn what they have never been taught, nor can they recall facts that they have never heard or read. Every missed school day is a lost opportunity for students to learn.

We know that you understand that your child attending school is important but now more than ever because we need our students to keep their love and passion for learning! They will become the next doctors, lawyers, preachers, and teachers etc. We want them to be the very best that they can be. We want them to be prepared for college, or ready to step into a career after they have completed high school. That preparedness does not start their senior year of High School. It starts today, as a matter of fact it began when they first stepped into Pre-K or Kindergarten.

The bottom line here is, we need our students to attend school, each and every day, for the entire school day. As for those of you who are making sure that your child is online each and every day and following their academic progress, you are to be celebrated! Hats off to you and keep up the great work!

Media Center, Dr. Jessica James

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Merritt Junior High School

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Meera D. Last Week

2020 WINNER RANJITSINH DISALE, INDIA

Ranjitsinh Disale Wins Global Teacher Prize For Promoting Girls' Education In Rural India

Daksha M. Last Week

Fun and Quirky Christmas Traditions From Around The World

Emilly M. 2 Weeks Ago

The Mystery Of The "Dueling" T. Rex and Triceratops May Finally Be Solved

Shariqua A. 2 Weeks Ago

Merritt's Virtual Parent of the Month (December)

Mrs. Ella Beckworth



One School...One Team...One Goal...Student Achievement!

“Every Day Counts!”

Mrs. Ida Cannon, School Attendance Officer for: East Sunflower Elementary A.W. James Elementary Ruleville Central Elementary Drew Hunter Middle Ruleville Central Middle Thomas E. Edwards, Sr. High	Mrs. Ida Cannon, School Attendance Officer for: Inverness Elementary Lockard Elementary Carver Elementary Moorhead Central Robert L. Merritt Junior High Gentry High
Tel (662) 887-8107 Fax (662) 887-7306	Tel (662) 887-8107 Fax (662) 887-7306

If you have any questions or concerns about attendance, please feel free to call or fax the Attendance Officer assigned to your child/children school.



Empowering Staff, Engaging Communities, Educating Students