



**Mingus Union**  
High School District #4

# MINGUS MATTERS

PAGE 1

MAY '25

Every Student Celebrated | Every Student Prepared

## Dear Marauder Families,

It's hard to believe how quickly this school year has gone! Mingus students and staff have been busy working hard this Spring to complete state testing, prepare for AP exams, the Verde Valley Fair, and all of the end of the year activities and projects for completing courses. The musical production of Mamma Mia was phenomenal, with state finalists in 9 of 13 categories! Our Spring sports are finishing up with AIA State competitions for tennis and track in addition to team sports completing their seasons. Prom was, once again, a huge success and our Student Council has once again excelled— Go Marauders!

Our most anticipated event – the graduation ceremony for the Class of 2025 – is almost here! We have been planning and prepping and look forward to celebrating our graduates in true Mingus fashion. You will find important graduation information included in this newsletter. Congratulations, Class of 2025! Once a Marauder, always a Marauder.

Among our graduates this year, we are so proud to recognize individual accomplishments, ranging from FFA awards to Dorrance scholarships to Harvard acceptance; please join us for Senior Honors Night on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm in the auditorium! Our YC Early College program has continued to thrive for seniors completing their final year on a college campus. Mingus Union earned Site of Distinction honors as an AVID school this year. We have added Unified Volleyball to our campus, which combines students with and without intellectual disabilities on the same teams, and has been a wonderful addition. Amazing things are happening here, and we are so proud of our Mingus community!

A special congratulations to our athletes and coaches. With another successful year of Mingus athletics in the books, it is a thrill to see strong Marauder competition and sportsmanship on display. State playoff appearances were highlighted by our Girls Basketball program making the Final Four! Thank you, coaches, for all you do to speak into the lives of our young people.

We celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week May 5<sup>th</sup>-May 9<sup>th</sup>. Please take the time to thank our Mingus teachers for their care and commitment to the young people of our community. We appreciate our teachers and staff and thank them for the impact they have on the lives of our Marauders.

As we bring this year to a close, I want to thank you all for sharing your student with us; it is an honor to serve your family. Thank you for your continued support of Mingus Union High School. Go Marauders!

### May Dates to Remember

**May 1 & 15**  
**Operation Graduation Meeting**  
5:30pm - MUHS Cafeteria  
\*More Information on PG 6

**May 2**  
**NO SCHOOL**  
Fair Day

**May 5-9**  
**Teacher Appreciation Week**

**May 7**  
**National School Nurse Day**

**May 6**  
**BLOOD DRIVE**  
8:00am - 5:00pm in the Small Gym  
\*More info on PG 3

**May 8**  
**Governing Board Meeting**  
6 - 8pm - MUHS Library  
Regular Session

**May 8**  
**MUHS Band Performance**  
6:30pm Auditorium  
\*More info on PG 13

**May 9-10**  
**One Act Play Festival**  
7pm Auditorium  
\*More info on PG 13

**May 13**  
**School SITE Council Meeting**  
5pm - MUHS Library  
\*More info on PG 3

**May 13**  
**Choir Concert**  
6pm Auditorium  
\*More info on PG 13

**May 15 & 16**  
**Senior Final Exams**  
**Normal Bell Schedule**  
**All periods - both days**

**May 19**  
**Senior Honors Night**  
5:30pm Auditorium  
\*More info on PG 13

**May 20**  
**ATORT Senior Showcase**  
6pm Auditorium  
\*More info on PG 13

**May 21 & 22**  
**Underclassmen Final Exams**  
**22nd: Periods 1 3 5**  
**23rd: Periods 2 4 6**

**May 23**  
**NO SCHOOL**  
**2023 GRADUATION CEREMONY**  
7pm on Bright Field



*David D. Beery*  
Principal  
Mingus Union High School



**May 23**  
**Graduation Practice for Seniors**  
7 - 10am in gym  
\*rehearsal is mandatory for all seniors.  
Students who do not attend graduation rehearsal will not participate in the graduation ceremony.





## ~~End of Year Reminders~~

### Seniors

All fees **MUST** be paid by Friday May 9th or your name will be removed from the Graduation walking list!



**Don't forget to pay your outstanding fees at the bookstore before the end of the year!**

To find if your account has a balance due, log into PowerSchool or contact Mrs. Bailey in the bookstore  
[ebailey@muhs.com](mailto:ebailey@muhs.com) ~OR~ 928-478-7939 (M-F 7a-3p)



## AP TESTING

### SCHEDULE

**May 5**  
**AP Biology**  
8am ~ Library

**May 7**  
**AP Computer Science A**  
12 pm ~ Library

**May 8**  
**AP World History**  
12pm ~ Small Gym

**May 9**  
**AP United States History**  
8am ~ Small Gym

**May 14**  
**AP English Lang and Comp**  
8am ~ Small Gym

**May 15**  
**AP Computer Science Principals**  
12pm ~ Library

**May 9**  
**Art and Design**  
8 p.m. ET is the deadline for AP Art and Design students to submit their three portfolio components as final in the AP Digital Portfolio.

**May 16**  
**AP Psychology**  
12 pm ~ Library

## FINAL EXAMS

**DO YOUR BEST!**

**May 15 & 16**  
**Senior Finals**

**DAY 1 & 2**  
Normal Bell Schedule  
All periods both days



**May 21 & 22**  
**Underclassmen Finals**

**DAY 1**  
Periods 1 3 5  
**DAY 2**  
Periods 2 4 6

**DAY 1 & 2 CLASS TIMES**  
7:55am – 9:10am  
9:20am – 10:35am  
10:45am – 12:00pm






## CAMPUS EVENTS & RESOURCES

### MUHS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Today's families are busy, and there's always something happening. Sync your family schedule with ours to avoid missing important testing dates and events when planning vacations and doctor appointments.

**CLICK**

Because of you, life doesn't stop.  #VitalToLife

### Mingus Union High School BLOOD DRIVE

**Open to the Public**

**Tuesday, May 6, 2025**  
8:00 am - 5:00 pm  
MUHS Small Gym at 1801 E Fir Street

Visit [www.vitalant.org](http://www.vitalant.org) (Blood Drive Code: Mingus) or scan the QR code to schedule your lifesaving appointment. Questions, please contact Kelcy Lyons at (928) 634-7531 x1113.

**DONATE BLOOD**  
vitalant.org | 877-25-VITAL

ADVANCE APPOINTMENTS are encouraged.

NEW BLOOD DONORS NEEDED! If you have never given blood, we need you. The number of Americans who give blood is declining. There is no substitute for human blood and many patients depend on blood to survive. Giving blood is safe, easy and heroic and that gives life to someone. Make an appointment to give blood today!

Donate May 1-31 and you'll be entered for a chance to win an epic vacation package! \*Terms and conditions apply; see [vitalant.org/EpicGiveaway](http://vitalant.org/EpicGiveaway).

### MUHS GOVERNING BOARD



## MAY 8TH @6PM

Meetings are open to the community and are held at 6pm in the MUHS Library. For more information about our board and meeting agenda, please go to: [www.mingusunion.com/Governing\\_Board](http://www.mingusunion.com/Governing_Board)

**GET  
INVOLVED!**  
YOU LIVE HERE

### Northern Arizona Healthcare \$10 Sports Physicals

All proceeds donated back to the student's school to benefit youth athletic department programs  
**Thursday, June 26, 2025**  
3 - 5:30 p.m. **Walk-ins Only**

Cost is \$10 cash (no credit cards accepted)  
All school-sponsored sports require a pre-season physical to participate.  
Please fill out forms 15.7A and 15.7B found on [www.aiaonline.org/about/forms](http://www.aiaonline.org/about/forms) before arrival.

Location: 1298 West Finnie Flat Road  
Camp Verde, AZ 86322

For more info call: 928-639-5555



### MINGUS UNION HIGH SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

We value your opinion and welcome you to attend and participate in site council meetings

**TUESDAY, MAY 13TH**  
5:00 PM ~ MUHS LIBRARY





## ATTENTION 2025 SENIORS!

### Dear Graduate & Parent/Guardian – Class of 2025:

Thank you for making Mingus Union High School a part of your family's history. Long after your student has moved on, their face will grace our yearbooks and their stories will live on in our hearts and hallways.

Graduation from high school is a ceremony which carries a personal and familial significance. We look forward to honoring your student's academic achievements and sharing this special time with you. Our Mingus graduates and their guests deserve a dignified and memorable ceremony. We ask that attendees follow our instructions for the graduation ceremony so we can provide a safe and celebratory event. We hope our graduation ceremony successfully demonstrates the immense pride that we have in our graduates, staff, and community.

As our seniors embark on their journeys beyond high school, please remember that you are and will always be the Black Cannons of 2025!

I look forward to sharing this incredibly special evening with our graduates and their loved ones.

**PLEASE READ THE  
GRADUATION PACKET  
[CLICK HERE FOR ENGLISH](#)  
[OPRIMA AQUÍ PARA ESPAÑOL](#)  
Print, sign, and return the  
form to the Bookstore by  
Friday, May 9th, 2025.**

Sincerely,

*David Beery*  
David Beery  
Principal



and so the  
Adventure  
BEGINS



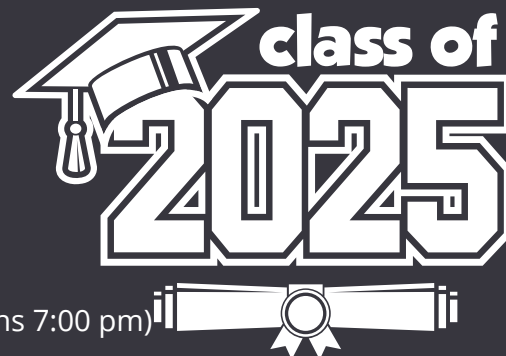




## MINGUS UNION HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR PREPARATION FOR GRADUATION

### May Countdown

- 5: Graduation tickets available for pickup in the Bookstore (4 field tickets per graduate)
- 6: Senior Surveys Due (QR code on last page)
- 9: Last Day to order cap and gown
- 15-16: Final Exams for Seniors – normal school schedule
- 19-23: Senior Week – More Details to Come!
- 19: 5:30pm Senior Honors Night
- 23: 7:00am Graduation Practice – Gym (\*Mandatory\*)
- 23: 6:00 pm \*Graduates meet in Gym to line up\* (Graduation begins 7:00 pm)
- 23 Operation Graduation 2025! 9:00pm at the Cottonwood Rec Center



### Graduate Dress Code

**Our graduation ceremony is an important community tradition and a final learning experience for our proud students; our dress code reflects this belief.**

- **Men:** dress shirt, pants/slacks, clean shoes (dress shoes are preferred and ties are optional)
- **Ladies:** dress, skirt, or dress pants/slacks – be careful with heel height, it is a long walk, and we do not want you to take a fall on your special night!
- **No shorts, t-shirts, jeans, or flip-flops – no extremely informal attire**
- **No decoration on the graduation gown. No leis, boas, etc. – only school approved medals/cords are allowed.**
- **Graduation caps may be decorated, but the decoration must lay flat. No 3D or decorations hanging off the side. And decoration which would draw undue or negative attention is not permitted.**
- **Red gown, cap, tassel: the cap is to be worn flat on the head with the point at the center of the forehead and tassel on the right side. Red gown must be fully zipped for the ceremony.**

### Senior Honors Night

We are extremely proud of the academic accomplishments of our seniors. We will hold a special ceremony on Monday, May 19th in the Mingus Union High School auditorium at 6:00 p.m. There will be a reception with light refreshments prior to the event at 5:30pm. If your student is being recognized for an award or scholarship, they will receive an invitation; however, all seniors and their families are welcome to attend. The attire for this evening is professional business attire.

### Graduation Seating

Each graduate will receive four field tickets once all school fees have been paid. Tickets will be given to the graduates (not adults). Students need to pick up the tickets at the High School Office May 5th - May 16th. MUHS will not manage ticket issues related to family dynamics. Our hope is that four field tickets will allow for inclusion of all family structures. The north football gates will open at 5:00 pm, Friday, May 23rd, for admission to the graduation ceremony. Seating in the bleacher area and the reserved on-field area (with ticket) is on a first come, first served basis, with no saving of seats. **CARPPOOLING IS ENCOURAGED!**

### Appropriate Behavior


If your child participates in a destructive or dangerous senior prank and/or demonstrates behavior that is not school appropriate, he or she will forfeit the privilege of participating in senior activities and/or walking at Graduation. If damage is caused to the school, no matter how little, law enforcement will be involved. Any behavior that draws attention away from the speakers, performers, or individual graduates being honored, or detracts from the dignity of the ceremony itself will result in removal from the ceremony.

We ask our proud parents to please respect all the graduates by remaining seated during the ceremony. Walking around on the field, engaging in conversations, or entering the student seating area for photographs is unfairly disruptive. Please do not enter the graduates' seating area. Blown up beach balls, poppers, silly string, bull horns, etc. are not appropriate. Graduation parties are more appropriate for celebrations of this nature.

Please discuss this issue with your graduate. We want to do everything possible to make this a cherished memory for all our students. A good rule of thumb, if the action takes away from the ceremony and focuses on an individual or group of individuals, then it is inappropriate and unacceptable. Thank you, in advance, for your understanding and cooperation.







# Operation GRADUATION

Friday May 23rd Cottonwood Rec Center  
Doors open @ 9pm

The Rec Center will be open for Seniors and their guests until the last student leaves-BUT- once you leave, you are NOT able to come back in! Each graduate will receive a ticket for the PRIZE drawings! Tickets are drawn throughout the night for prizes, such as computers, electronics, sports equipment, gift certificates, music, movies, & the BIG prize of \$2,025 CASH!!!

**Free Event!**

**ENTERTAINMENT ALL NIGHT!**


- MUSIC BY DJ
- SHARPIE TATTOOS
- KARAOKE
- JOUSTING
- CLIMBING WALL
- VIDEO GAMES
- WATER SLIDE & POOL
- PING PONG


**ALL MUHS 2025 GRADUATES WELCOME!**

OpGrad is possible only through volunteer efforts and community support. This event is planned and run strictly by volunteers so that all donations received are used for the celebration. If you would like to volunteer please email Sarah Garrett at [sgarrett@muhs.com](mailto:sgarrett@muhs.com)

You can make donations at the following AZGives Link  
<https://www.azgives.org/MingusConnection>

**OR scan the QR Code.**





TAX ID # 86-0718225

OPERATION GRADUATION IS A FREE, SAFE, ADULT-CHAPERONED EVENT FOR MUHS 2024 GRADUATES (+ 1 GUEST) THAT TAKES PLACE AFTER THE MUHS GRADUATION CEREMONY.



**MAY 1 & 15**  
**5:30PM**  
**MUHS CAFETERIA**

Seeking volunteers & donations from local businesses

**INFORMATIONAL & PLANNING MEETING**

[mingusopgrad@gmail.com](mailto:mingusopgrad@gmail.com)



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS! WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Operation Graduation is possible only through volunteer efforts and community support!

Please use the following Link or QR Code to let us know that you are interested in volunteering your TIME to the event by setting up, taking down and/or supervising during the event on Friday, May 23rd!

Contact us today to learn more about this exciting volunteer opportunity.

<https://forms.gle/K7DQw9B4pxtfhxKj7>





# marauder scholarships

## Celebrating our AVID Seniors!

This year's AVID Seniors have been busy learning and reinforcing college and career readiness skills. These skills range from organization of physical and digital resources and materials, how to finance higher education, writing for disciplinary literacy, focusing on college and career options, creating to-do lists to prepare for college and applying for scholarships. To date, our AVID seniors have applied for over 350 scholarships and many students have already been notified of earning funding to continue their education.



\*eating healthy in college potluck

**19/19 of our AVID seniors  
have applied to and been  
accepted into college(s)!**

# SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

## Candace Basham



After graduating, Candace plans on attending the University of Alaska Anchorage in the fall as a pre-nursing major. She hopes to see herself graduated from college with her nursing degree and working in a hospital gaining hours before branching off and working as a travel nurse. She likes to keep herself busy by going to the gym, working a part-time job up in Sedona, and she also runs her own YouTube channel, with over 10,000 subscribers! During her time at Mingus, she has participated in many clubs, including Student Council for 2 years (Representative one year, Senior Class President second year) -BC2M club (mental health awareness) for Junior and Senior years - International Explorers club during Freshman Year -Yearbook Chief Editor (for 2 years) Sophomore and Junior year - National Honors Society Member- Junior and Senior year -JV Swim Team Freshman and Sophomore year -Link Crew Club (help freshman manage high school) during Senior Year -BigFuture College Board Ambassador Fall 2024 Semester -"Crutches 4 Africa" 2025 Ambassador for Mexico Leg. Student Council has been her favorite activity on campus by far! Having a voice in the way our school runs has provided her with so much confidence and the ability to speak up. If she could speak to herself as a freshman, she would tell herself to get more involved and to get out of her comfort zone, because this big scary campus as a freshman has gotten way more comfortable by being involved!

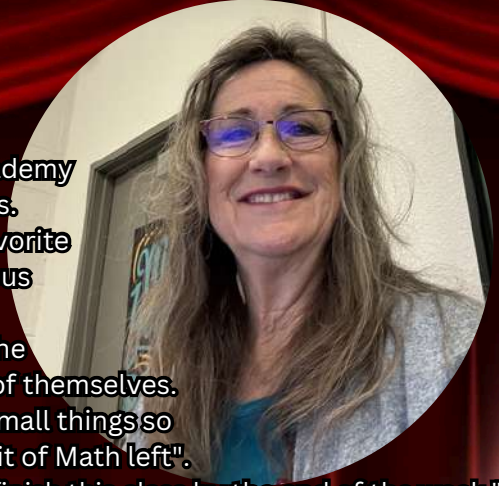




# STAFF SPOTLIGHTS

## Sherri Ullery

**Classroom Aide ~ Academy at Mingus**



Sherri has been at Mingus for 14 years. She has spent 11 of those years at the Academy at Mingus. At the Academy she works with our students who are behind on credits. She tutors, consults, motivates, redirects and cares about these students. Her favorite part of her job is seeing that hard work has paid off. She loves running into previous students and hearing about their success because of their mind change towards education that happened at the Academy. She also strives to help students see the purpose of finishing their education and help them set goals to make something of themselves. When engaging with a student who needs motivation she tells them to focus on small things so the challenge of all those credits does not look so big. Like, "You only have 1 credit of Math left". Or "When you focus, look how much you can accomplish" or "Let's see if you can finish this class by the end of the week." When it comes to her own motivation, several things keep her on task at work. One is the responsibility she has. As a paraprofessional, she is continuously searching for ways to help her students and other students focus on their education. She also enjoys constantly learning from and sharing experiences with her co-workers. Watching a student finally finish a class and watching them radiate from this accomplishment is what keeps bringing her back to work. Sherri has lived in Cottonwood most of her life. She is a Mingus Union Alumni and so are her husband and children. She was raised in a big extended family and loved the values that they taught her. She has four children and their wonderful spouses, and five grandchildren. In her free time she loves to bargain shop, do yard work, and hang out with her kids and grandkids. She also loves to play games around the table with her family.

## Haley Davis

**English 9 & Dual Enrollment English 12**

**Head coach JV softball team, & sponsor of Rainbow League.**



Haley's favorite part of the job is always her students. She says that teenagers might be unpredictable at times, but that's what makes every day interesting. She enjoys helping them through their English work, seeing how they grow as writers and readers, and listening to their ideas, even when they're a little wild. Teaching seniors this year has been extra rewarding since I taught some of those students when they were in 9th grade. When she needs to find or maintain my motivation, she thinks about all of the impactful teachers she had as a kid (Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Snider, Mr. Ostler, Mrs. Thorne, Mrs. Barton, and Mrs. Goldsmith to name a few). They too, pushed through difficult days with minimal resources and support, and she still learned and grew with their support every single day. "If they could do it, so can I." When supporting a student who needs motivation, she would advise that they try to connect the skills they practice in the classroom to the real world. In the world outside of school, you might not be reading Shakespeare or delving into complex scientific concepts, but you will always need to persevere through difficult reading tasks, identify the source of an issue, collaborate, and solve problems. We practice all of that in school with the support and guidance of teachers, so take advantage of your time here! Haley was born and raised in Sedona, and prior to teaching at Mingus, got her MFA in Creative Writing from NAU. She taught English and Creative Writing at NAU before coming back to the Verde Valley area in 2020. It was a huge career shift going from the college setting to high school, but she is very glad she did it. Who would have thought 9th grade English would be so fun! You can find Haley reading in her free time. Her goal this year is to read 100 books, and she is well on the way with 32 finished as of mid-April. She also loves spending time with her spouse, gardening, and enjoying the outdoors, whether that's at the creek or on the softball field with her team.







## MARAUDER of the MONTH

TEACHERS AND COACHES ARE ASKED TO NOMINATE STUDENTS IN ALL ACADEMICS AND ATHLETICS DEPARTMENTS. THESE STUDENTS ARE THEN VOTED ON AMONGST THOSE TEACHERS & COACHES TO CHOOSE FINALISTS TO RECOGNIZE EACH MONTH. THESE STUDENTS ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN OUR NEWSLETTER AND INVITED TO RECEIVE RECOGNITION IN FRONT OF OUR COMMUNITY AT THE FOLLOWING MONTH'S BOARD MEETING.

*Carlos Galaz*

ENGLISH & LITERATURE

*Asher McFarland*

SOCIAL STUDIES

*Felix Rodriguez*

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

*Cole Castro*

SCIENCE

*Laira Landaverde Hernandez*

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

*Mckenzie Tamba*

PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS

*Ryan Haggard*

MATHEMATICS

*Logan Laftin*

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

*Kati Jusebrink*

ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION

*Carter Wachter*

MALE ATHLETE

*Anslie Bliss*

FEMALE ATHLETE

*Magaly Gonzalez*

PURSING VICTORY WITH HONORS



# CONGRATULATIONS

## MAMMA MIA!



The AZ High School Musical Theatre Awards through ASU Gammage released their finalist list and we are beyond thrilled to announce that ATORT's production of "Mamma Mia!" received finalists in 9 of the 13 Categories! Out of the top 25 schools that were selected across the state, we are in the top 4-10 schools of each of the categories.



## ASU GAMMAGE – MINGUS FINALISTS



### High School Music Theatre Awards



- Top 7 Finalists to MUHS Hair and Make-up Crew lead by **Melaine Rodriguez**
- Top 8 Finalist to MUHS Costume Crew lead by **Addi Hughes**
  - shout out to our designer and Mingus 2024 Alumni, **Beth Bates**, as well!
- Top 8 Finalist to MUHS Set and Props Crew lead by **Ava Fransk** and **Jack Murphee**
- Top 8 Finalist to MUHS Lighting Team - **Henry Crawford**, **Ian Laas**, and **Sofia Arvayo**
- Top 9 Finalist – Best Dance Ensemble – Voulez-Vous, choreographed by **Carla and Stephen Renard**
- Top 8 Finalist – Best Supporting Actor – **Caleb Thompson**
- Top 10 Finalist – Best Lead Female – **Mekenzie Combs**
  - If she wins, she competes in New York on Broadway for the Jimmy Awards!
- Top 10 Finalist – Best Vocalist – **Mekenzie Combs**
- Top 4 Finalist – ASU Gammage Leadership Award – **Mekenzie Combs**

#### Special Shout Out to our Mingus Finalists

- **Jareth Alegria** for Best Lead Male
- **Emerald Cardinali** for Best Supporting Actress
- **Wyatt Schilz** for Stage Management

We are so proud to have so many finalists for our production of "Mama Mia!" One thing to keep in mind, unlike Athletics there are no school divisions due to size or region in this competition – from class 1A to 5A, each school is on the same playing field. From Joseph City to Scottsdale, we are all competing for the same 14 awards (the 14th award, best musical, finalists aren't announced until the awards show). The winners of each category will be announced at the Awards show at ASU Gammage on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. New this year - if Mekenzie makes it to the top three, she will have to surprise sing at the awards show, on the Gammage Stage, in front of everyone... competing against the other two for a ticket to Broadway!

**Congrats to all the kids involved!**  
They truly knocked it out of the park!  
Thank you all for your support, encouragement, and for coming to see the show!

**Your Mingus Theatre Team,**  
James Ball, Stephen Renard, Carla Renard,  
Angelica Alcalá, Katie Hall, and Caleb Wright



## **MUHS Athletics Program**

**CLICK**

All current athletic events, current team schedules and coaching information are posted on the calendar for quick viewing. You can subscribe and receive daily emails by clicking the link below, subscribe in the top right corner.



OUR STUDENTS, OUR TEAMS . . . OUR FUTURE.

## **Congratulations to our 2nd Semester Athletes!!**

**We had over 85 AIA Scholar Athlete Awards in Baseball, Softball Track and Tennis**

**And 29 AIA Scholar Athlete TEAM Awards in Boys Tennis and Girls Tennis**

**These athletes are recognized for 3.5 GPA or higher and for their exemplary dedication to academics, athletics, and activities as a foundation for success.**

## **Keep up the great work Marauders!!**



## **Attention Athletes**

**Sports Registration for 2025-26 is now available!**

Stop by the front office to pick up your athletic packet or visit

**[www.mingusunion.com/athletics](http://www.mingusunion.com/athletics)**

*You must be cleared by the Athletic Dept in order to participate in sports.*

### **The following steps need to be submitted:**

- Family ID online registration needs to be created and/or renewed for the 2025/2026 school year.
- Concussion course and Opioid course needs to be completed through the AIA online academy
- All athletes need to turn in their 2025/2026 AIA sports physical evaluation form completed and signed.
- Visit our website [www.mingusunion.com/athletics](http://www.mingusunion.com/athletics) for all your registration needs







❤️🏐🏃 We are thrilled to announce the debut of our \*Unified Volleyball season at Mingus! 🏃🏐❤️

For the first time ever, we have three incredible teams: the Baby Blue Raiders, Pink Pirates, and Black Treasures. Head Coach Alyiah Ramirez, alongside Assistant Coaches Emely Zapata and Jimena Hernandez, have been working tirelessly with the teams to prepare them for this exciting season. We are incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication of these outstanding athletes. The season ran through the month of April, with the championship game scheduled on April 30th.



\*Unified Sports in high schools is a groundbreaking initiative that brings together students from diverse backgrounds to promote inclusivity, understanding, and social cohesion. By providing a platform for students with intellectual disabilities to participate and develop their skills, Unified Sports inspires a more accepting and supportive environment. As the program continues to grow and evolve, it will be essential to address the challenges and limitations, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to participate and reap the benefits of this transformative program.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ANOTHER ONE OF OUR COLLEGE-BOUND MARAUDER ATHLETES!!!**



**MARLEE NAEGLER**  
**Mesa Community College**  
**IN ARIZONA**







## MUHS Performing Arts

### END OF YEAR BAND CONCERT

Performances by:  
MUHS Rock/Jazz and Percussion Ensembles



May 8th @6:30 pm  
MUHS Auditorium



### ONE-ACT FESTIVAL

\$5  
ADULT

\$3  
STUDENT  
CHILD

**MAY  
9 & 10  
6:30PM**

**MAY 9  
THEATRE 1**  
Will You Be My Nemesis?  
BY KATHRYN FUNKHOUSER  
Directed by Boia Renard

**THEATRE 2**  
The Wizard of Oz  
BY IAN MCWETHY &  
JASON PIZZARELLO  
Directed by Zoe Saggio

**THEATRE 3**  
PUFFS: Seven Increasingly  
Eventful Years at a Certain  
School of Magic and Magic  
BY MATT COX

**MAY 10  
THEATRE 1**  
The Elf on a Shelf Must Die  
BY DON ZOLIDIS  
Directed by Emerald Cardinali

**THEATRE 2**  
Princess Party Smackdown  
BY DON ZOLIDIS  
Directed by Sarah Orbe

**THEATRE 3**  
PUFFS: Seven Increasingly  
Eventful Years at a Certain  
School of Magic and Magic  
BY MATT COX

1801 E. Fir Street \* Cottonwood, AZ

Mingus Performing Arts Presents

### Final Choir Concert

Concert Choir & Performance Choir

**2025**

**13**  
May

**6:30PM**

**FREE CONCERT**  
MUHS Auditorium  
1801 E. Fir St.  
Cottonwood, AZ



Mingus Union High School's

### SENIOR SHOWCASE

**CLASS OF 2025**

We're gonna do this...

"...one more time!"

**TUESDAY  
MAY 20TH**

**MUHS Auditorium**

**STARTS AT 5PM**

Sign up at

[mingusperformingarts.com/senior.html](http://mingusperformingarts.com/senior.html)



Don't miss your  
opportunity to catch these  
last performances of  
the 2024-2025  
school year!







## SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW!

We are excited to be offering several options and formats for Summer School 2025.

### Dates:

- Original Credit starts Tuesday, May 27th - ends Thursday, June 26th
  - Credit Recovery starts Thursday, May 29th - ends Thursday, June 26th
- Credit Recovery for Algebra 1 and Geometry will be a hybrid schedule with students coming in person for 3 hours per day and completing additional work from home.

ALL courses besides CR Algebra 1 and CR Geometry are completed at home in Edgenuity.  
You will be responsible for dedicating time to work on your course(s) during Summer School.  
You must finish your course(s) completely in order to earn the credit.  
There will be no extensions given.

### Credit Recovery

Students can register for/earn up to 2 credits (4 X .5 credit courses) in Edgenuity.

### Original Credit

Students can register for/earn 1 original credit (1 course) in Edgenuity.

Cost: \$100 payable to the Mingus Bookstore

## SIGN UP TODAY!



## MUCHAS FELICIDADES

**Congratulations to the Graduating Seniors of the Latino Student Union !**  
They will be wearing Red, White & Green cords at graduation to show that they have maintained a 3.0 or higher GPA, completed at least 10 hours of community service, and have been active members of the organization.

**\*Ashley Gonzalez**

**\*Jose Felix**

**Daizy Mejia**

**\*Andrea Deras**

**Andrea Duplan**

**\*Eleni Salas**

**Tyler Williamson**

**\*Jessica Casas Garcia**

**\*Idali Alamanza**

*\*HHSS Members*



## 2025 Hispanic Honor & Service Society Inductees:

**Amy Castillo Serrano**  
**Enrique Cruz**  
**Yuliana Estrada**

**Kaylen Flores Castro**  
**Gabriela Guerrero Jimenez**  
**Jose Lara**  
**Mia Martinez**

**Adrianna Mejia**  
**Allie Sabol**  
**Javier Salgado**  
**Lola Vento**







## VACTE - The Valley Academy of Career & Technology Education would like to highlight our Construction & HVAC Courses.

This course will introduce and train students in the basic to advanced skills necessary to pursue a career in construction. This course covers foundations, flooring, framing, plumbing, electrical, roofing, sheet rock, windows, doors, cabinetry, blue print reading, use of hand tools, surveying and construction math. Models to full-sized partitions are constructed in the shop. Projects at actual job sites are included. Upon completion of this course, students will have the opportunity to test for certification in Forklift Operations, OSHA-10, and Certification by the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER).

Students receive hands-on experience both in the classroom as well as on-the-job training while participating in business/industry internships. Many of our Construction students have been hired by local construction companies and are making competitive wages!


Come join our program! Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors can take this course. We have two sections and the students receive high school credit! You can participate in Skills USA and travel competing in many different competitions! We would love for you to come by the VACTE office on 3405 E. State Rt. 89A, Building B, in Cottonwood and see our amazing Construction classrooms.

We are open Monday through Thursday from 7am to 4:30pm.

At VACTE, we envision a future where our students attain the skills to build professional careers that will last a lifetime.

Our vision is "Skills for Today, Careers for a Lifetime".






# YC & VACTE - HVAC Program

## at YC's Verde Campus

Monday - Thursday PM Program

PROGRAM CAP = 16 students



• Yavapai College credits are earned after completing the semester with a passing grade (C or better).

• HS credits will be awarded at the end of each semester

HVAC Installation & Maintenance Technician (HS Title)					
Program	Courses	Term	HS Credits	YC Credits	Industry / 3rd Party Certification available for students to complete
Year 1 PM 1:20 - 3:50	HVA 100 - Introduction to HVAC I (POT 81)	Sem 1 - Fall	1.5	3	Yavapai College's HVAC Installation & Maintenance Technician Certificate
	HVA 111 - Basic Electricity for HVAC Technicians (POT 82)			3	
	HVA 110 - Introduction to HVAC II (POT 81)	Sem 2 - Spring	1.5	3	
	HVA 225 - Heating Technologies I (POT 82)			3	
Total Credits Yr 1			3	12	
Year 2 PM 1:20 - 3:50	HVA 215 - Refrigerant Technology I (POT 81)	Sem 3 - Fall	1.5	3	Yavapai College's HVAC Installation & Maintenance Technician Certificate
	HVA 220 - HVAC Circuits and Motors (POT 82)			3	
	HVA 230 - HVAC Troubleshooting (POT 81)	Sem 4 - Spring	1.5	3	
	HVA 112 - EPA Refrigerant Certification Prep (POT 82)			3	
Total Credits Yr 2			3	12	
Total Credits Earned if the Program is Completed Successfully			6	24	Updated Oct. 3, 2024





## Community Events & Resources

There's no doubt that our Verde Valley community knows how to come together to support those who live here! This page will list some of those amazing Community Resources and let you know some of the events and happenings they have planned this month.

*Inspiring*  
**CHANGE**

*Providing*  
**HOPE**

*Sharing God's LOVE*

**Old Town Mission**  
116 E. Pinal Street  
Cottonwood  
928-634-7869

**Mission Thrift Store**  
810 W Mingus Ave  
Cottonwood  
928-634-1644

**FOOD PANTRY**  
Wednesday: 9 am - 2 pm & 4 pm - 6 pm  
Thursday: 9 am - 2 pm

**COMMUNITY MEALS**  
Monday, Tuesday & Friday: 11:30 am-12:30 pm  
Monday: 5 pm - 6 pm  
Wednesday: 4 pm - 6 pm (**Served to-go only**)

**RESOURCE CENTER**  
\* Available for those without residence:  
Showers, breakfast, clothes, hygiene & resources  
Monday, Tuesday & Friday 9 am - 11 am

**THE KIDS SHOP**  
Monday - Thursday 9 am - 2 pm  
Monday 5 pm - 6 pm  
or call for an appointment 928-634-7869

**HAIR SALON**  
Monday 4 pm to 5:30 pm  
Tuesday: 9 am - 12:30 pm pm

**VISION**  
1st Tuesday/month  
10 am - 11 am

**LEGAL**  
Call: 928-634-7869

**MISSION THRIFT STORE**  
Clothing vouchers can be used Tuesday - Friday 9am to 4pm  
Tuesday - Saturday: 9 am to 5 pm  
810 W. Mingus Ave. in Cottonwood

The Mission is a **SNAP Community Partner**

This project has been funded at least in part with Federal funds from the USDA.  
This institution is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

**SNAP** Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

**LISA**  
Low Income Student Aid

Supporting Student Success  
Through Community Compassion

Some ways LISA can assist your student:

- Medical bills, prescriptions, therapy, etc
- Clothing, shoes, coats
- Hair cuts & personal hygiene items
- Outstanding cafeteria balances
- Book purchases & class tuition
- Admission to school events
- Graduation Expenses
- School supplies & special needs devices
- Childcare costs & pre-school tuition
- Fees for extracurricular activities
- College deposits & testing fees
- Birthdays & Holidays

Qualifying students include those who attend Oak Creek School, Dr. Daniel Bright School, Cottonwood Community School, as well as their graduates currently attending Mingus Union High School or Verde Tech High School. We also assist students attending West Sedona School, Red Rock Jr. High and Sr. High School.

LISA is a 501C(3) charitable organization that provides aid to public school students in the Verde Valley.  
Request aid at [azlisa.org](http://azlisa.org)

LISA Aid Request Form

**CHECK OUT THE NEW MOHELP.ORG!**

Now featuring comprehensive services.  
Find out what you are eligible for!

**MOHELP.ORG**

**MOHELP**  
Bringing Communities Together

SCAN ME





Please note these students are sponsored by the State Department to promote peace and diplomacy amongst former Soviet Union countries and the US. Students are selected based on their leadership, academics and personalities. They are provided a monthly stipend full, medical insurance, and school funds. The student can share a room with a closely aged sibling. Students arrive in August only if they have a family and are presently anxiously waiting to see where in the US they may be living. This is a great way to bring cultural diversity into your world and become global citizens.

**Bota** is 16 years old and in 11th grade. She is from Kazakhstan and lives with her grandparents. Her interests are Model UN Human Rights and debate. She is interested in becoming a chemical engineer or going into political science. Her teacher gave her all excellent reports in personality traits and states that she is respectful; a leader; and connects well with her peers.

**Feruza** is also 16 years old and is from Uzbekistan. She loves volunteering, debate, dance and public speaking. This young woman enjoys journalism and would like to learn to play the piano better. Her teacher describes her as open minded: a good communicator who is motivated with strong leadership skills and is respectful. Feruza also received all excellent reports in personality traits.

**Polina**, 16, from Ukraine, loves swimming, volunteering, student council, baking, dance and photography. Her teacher describes her as sociable, flexible, with tremendous potential. She helps others; is friendly, honest, and never lets people down. She received all excellents in personality traits. Polina states she will bring her sense of humor and can't wait to meet you

**Baseball. Barbeques. Birthday celebrations.**  
You've got so much to offer! Wouldn't you love to share your little corner of America with a PAX high school exchange student from the prestigious Future Leaders Exchange (FLEX) Program? Established by Congress in 1992 under the FREEDOM Support Act following the collapse of the Soviet Union, the program provides merit-based scholarships for students from post-Soviet countries. Through person-to-person exchange, FLEX students learn about American society and values, acquire leadership skills, develop their sense of civic responsibility, and help educate Americans about their own countries and cultures. Invite an international student into your home and watch how you all grow!

**Tetiana**, is also 16 and from Ukraine. She lives with her grandparents and two siblings. She states her family is Christian. Her hobbies include dance, painting, and graphic design. Tetiana is obsessed with pets and wants to be involved in volunteering in the US. She can't wait to meet you and wants to thank you for choosing her.

For more  
information contact  
**Marcia Goebel**  
marciagoebel@yahoo.com  
(928)301-9868







BREAKFAST				
MAY 2025				
Students: \$1.50 / Adults: \$3.00				
Mingus Union High School				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			Country Style Biscuits and Gravy 1	No School 2
Chorizo and Egg Breakfast Burrito 5	Egg and Sausage Breakfast Tornado 6	French Toast Sticks w/ Sausage Patties 7	Country Style Biscuits and Gravy 8	Fresh Baked Frosted Cinnamon Roll 9
Chorizo and Egg Breakfast Burrito 12	Egg and Sausage Breakfast Tornado 13	French Toast Sticks w/ Sausage Patties 14	Country Style Biscuits and Gravy 15	Fresh Baked Frosted Cinnamon Roll 16
Manager Special Fresh Fruit Selection 19	Manager Special Fresh Fruit Selection 20	Manager Special Fresh Fruit Selection 21	Manager Special Fresh Fruit Selection 22	Summer BREAK 23
Summer BREAK 26	Summer BREAK 27	Summer BREAK 28	Summer BREAK 29	Summer BREAK 30

**Alternative Meals:** Granola + Yogurt, Uncrustable PB&J, Whole Grain Cereal.  
**All Breakfast Meals Served with Fresh Fruit and Optional Milk and Iced Coffee**

LUNCH				
MAY 2025				
Students: \$3.00 / Adults: \$5.00				
Mingus Union High School				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			Orange Chicken Veg Fried Rice Broccoli and Cauliflower 1	No School 2
Boneless Chicken Wings Whole Grain Roll Celery and Carrots 5	Loaded Nachos Chili Cheese Refried Beans Lettuce and Tomato 6	Corndog Waffle Fries Steamed Carrots 7	Teriyaki Chicken Veg Fried Rice Broccoli and Cauliflower 8	Cheese Stuffed Breadsticks Marinara Dipping Sauce 9
Spicy or Regular Chicken Tenders Whole Grain Roll Celery and Carrots 12	Enchiladas Casserole Chili Cheese Refried Beans Lettuce and Tomato 13	All Beef Hotdog Tater Tots Steamed Carrots 14	Chicken Eggrolls Veg Fried Rice Broccoli and Cauliflower 15	French Bread Pizza Marinara Dipping Sauce Celery and Carrots 16
Manager Special Fresh Fruit Selection Vegetable Selection 19	Manager Special Fresh Fruit Selection Vegetable Selection 20	HALF DAY 21	HALF DAY 22	Summer BREAK 23
Summer BREAK 26	Summer BREAK 27	Summer BREAK 28	Summer BREAK 29	Summer BREAK 30

**Alternative Meals:** Grilled Cheese, Uncrustable PB&J, Hamburger, Cheeseburger, Spicy Chicken Sandwich, Bean and Cheese Burrito, Personal Pizza  
**All Lunch Meals Served with Optional Fresh Fruit and Milk**