



School Events & Activities

TUESDAY, NOV. 7 – ELECTION DAY: DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!



There are five candidates running for two available seats for Manitou Springs School District's Board of Education. Please visit www.mssd14.org for more information.

7TH ANNUAL

Craft Fair

Saturday, November 18 | 9AM – 4 PM
Manitou Springs High School

Jewelry | Beauty Products | Home Decor
Chili Cooking

401 El Monte Place

A Message from the Head Learner

Greetings to our beloved Mustang community! We are launching a new way of communicating with each of you every week via this page in the Pikes Peak Bulletin. I will be sharing information regarding the school district, and its mission to serve our children so they are prepared to have successful, meaningful, happy lives. Please let us know if you like this new approach, and if you find it helpful.

Let me begin by informing you of our new Advanced Placement (AP) program at Manitou Springs High School this school year. Students, for the first time in our school's history, are able to take the AP courses at Manitou Springs High School. Today, we have 142 students taking 206 AP seats. Additionally, I would like to celebrate our high school's incredible accomplishment of being selected to the AP Honor roll. Congratulations students on scoring so well on the AP exams! More to come next week.



~ Ed Longfield
Superintendent of MSSD 14

Artist of the Week



Artist: Jensen Delius, MSHS 12th Grade Title: Honeycombs Media: charcoal and acrylic

Mustang Profile: Mike Talbott, MSHS

Mike Talbott, currently in his fourth year at Manitou Springs High School, is one of five instructors teaching Advanced Placement (AP) courses this school year.

Can you tell us about your background?

I graduated as valedictorian from high school, attended West Point, and entered a military career as an intelligence officer, ending in the rank of colonel. I have been married for 37 years, have three married children, and five grandchildren. During my time in the Army, I spent about half of my career in special operations, chasing down rogue characters doing harm throughout the world. I served in several combat zones, including many trips to the Middle East, where my unit was responsible for the capture of many bad actors such as Saddam Hussein. I served as a paratrooper and completed nearly 100 jumps from many types of aircraft. I taught for three years at West Point, where I was the course director for freshman Calculus which all cadets must complete. After 30 years in the Army and serving as a brigade commander, I retired in 2010.

With such an extensive military career, why did you become a teacher?

West Point instilled in me a strong belief in the duty, honor, country ideal. I didn't know a better way to contribute to our society and country other than teaching young people and being a role model. If I can influence even one student a year in a positive way, then I am contributing in a way I hoped for. I believe that teaching will help in keeping me young. I also believe that teaching math

and physics isn't my only task as a teacher. I believe that I have a role in assisting teenagers become responsible adults and what the real world is and will be like for them.



Why Manitou?

There is a lot of diversity within the student body, which makes life interesting for me. As an intelligence officer, I spent lots of time studying people, figuring out how they thought and what made them tick. Teaching is a bit like that; trying to figure out how to connect and help young people learn.

You are teaching AP Calculus AB and BC; what are the benefits of the new AP program?

AP is recognized by colleges nationwide. Since various schools grade differently, and have varying standards, AP provides a method to look at students nationwide with the same academic standard. If a student gets a certain score, the college knows where that student stands and if they are ready for the next class. Students are afforded the opportunity to earn college credits without the additional cost. Offering AP courses for students is a way to challenge certain students. It sends a message that if a student wants to be challenged academically, he or she can come to Manitou, be challenged, and get prepared for higher education or a career as adults.

Please download the MSSD14 app for more district information

