EXCITEMENT IN OUR BUILDING...

THERE ARE MANY AESTHETIC CHANGES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE MERCYHURST PREP BUILDING, AND MORE SURPRISES ARE ON THE WAY.

DREAM LABS
A TECHNOLOGICAL HUB FOR DESIGN-RESEARCH-ENGINEERING-ARTS-MATH
CADD (COMPUTER-AIDED DESIGN AND DRAFTING)
3-3D PRINTERS

CAFETERIA
GET A GREAT VIEW OF LAKE ERIE IN A COLLEGE-LIKE ATMOSPHERE FOR DINING
BILL AND BETSY VORSHECK LIBRARY

BE MILES AHEAD OF THE CURRENT SECONDARY STANDARDS IN SCHOLARLY RESEARCH, KNOWLEDGE, CREATIVITY AND STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGIES. THIS SPACE ACCOMMODATES YOUR NEEDS WHETHER YOU NEED PRIVACY, GROUP DISCUSSION, CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION OR JUST A CASUAL SPACE TO WORK.

MORE TO COME...

A NEW PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
STAGE RIGGING, ACOUSTICAL TREATMENT
PERMANENT SEATING, CLIMATE CONTROL
PROFESSIONAL LIGHTING
When the entire school body gathers together in the gym for LAKER DAY each attendee witnesses a sea of color, obstacle courses, amusing props, and a level of fun and competitive excitement that captures the excitement of everyone there. LAKER DAY is an occasion to celebrate school spirit!

MPS LAKER DAY conjures up imaginative ideas, excitement, and a lot of Laker Pride. This annual, spirited afternoon of games and challenges brings freshmen wearing yellow, sophomores red, juniors orange and seniors blue, together in a fun atmosphere where classes compete with each other.

“The King & I” at MPS April 21 and 22 – 7 PM / April 23 – 7:30 PM / April 24 – 2 PM
COME SEE! The Mercyhurst Performing Arts Dept. presents

"THE KING & I" at MPS April 21 and 22 – 7 PM / April 23 – 7:30 PM / April 24 – 2 PM

THE MPS PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT PRODUCTION OF

Cinderella

WAS A SELL-OUT!
OUR LAKER FAMILY

MPS is Erie’s only Catholic co-educational high school. Learning in a community environment alongside male and female peers, as well as students from other countries, best prepares you for college and life in the real world.

Academic Excellence

Choose from Honors, College Prep or International Baccalaureate courses as well as numerous exciting electives. These options allow you to find your own academic level and courses specifically suited to your interests.
Our school, sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, emulates the Mercy charism: concern for the dignity of all persons, justice, compassionate presence, hospitality and service.

• Small classes • One faculty member to every 12 students
• Individualized attention • 99% Graduates on to college
• 1% Work/Armed Services
Why choose Mercyhurst Prep?

What do some of our freshmen say about Mercyhurst Prep?

“The art program is one of the best plus the sports teams are amazing too. When people said there are no cliques here, I didn’t believe them, but they were right.”

Sydney Benes, St. James

“There is a spot for everyone at MPS, no matter your interests; you will fit in. I was surprised by how welcoming everyone was, especially upperclassmen.”

Ben Rosenthal, J.S. Wilson

“I wanted a better education, a school environment I looked forward to being in and I’d only heard good things about this school. The teachers and students are friendly and I’m learning a lot. I can contribute in more conversations with my parents based on things I’ve learned.”

Emilia McFerren, Meadville Area Middle School

“You have the chance to experience and learn so much but in a fun way. You won’t have a problem transitioning to high school because everyone is extremely helpful and they all care. You enter into a family and it is a factor that anyone can feel.”

Katharyn Stefanovski, Fairview

“Now that I am here, I absolutely love everything about this school and could honestly say I have never been happier. I love the people, the teachers, and the environment. Once you get here it feels like your family for life and you are glad you get to spend the next four years with them.”

Sofia Griffiths, J.S. Wilson

“It is a great school! Education is key to a good life and this school will give you exactly that.”

Jake Coughenour, St. George
IMPORTANT DATES:

APRIL

April 16 Laker Glow 5k and 1 mile Fun Walk at MPS 7:30 p.m.
April 18 Confirmation of registration due ($100 deposit due)
April 25 Musical Production, Concert Choir, Show Choir, CTE Auditions
April 26 Dance Company Auditions and Technical Theatre Interviews
April 21-23 The King & I at MPS – April 21 and 22 at 7 p.m., April 23 at 7:30 p.m. and April 24 at 2 p.m.

April 30 Math Placement Exam – 9 a.m.
Freshman Welcome Dance

MAY

May 4 World Language Placement Exam – 9 a.m.
May 11 Freshman Scheduling Night

“You shouldn’t follow where your friends go; you will make new friends. It surprised me that many underclassmen are friends with upperclassmen and vice versa.”
Claire Johnson, St. Luke

“It’s a school with incredible people who teach and study in it, with challenging classes and activities. I was surprised how people accepted me as a non-Catholic.”
Danijel Corovic, Serbia

“I like the environment, the people, the dedication of every teacher, and the values the school represents. I was surprised how easy it is to always have someone to talk to and the availability of the teachers to help you if you don’t understand.”
Ketera Hinman, St. James School

“I like all the teachers, how easy it is to make friends and how easy it is to get from room to room. I was surprised by how inviting and nice everyone is.”
Alex Simpson, St. Peters

“It’s an awesome place where everyone is your friend. Even if you don’t necessarily like school, you’ll end up loving it at MPS. You can be as creative as you want and achieve anything and everything.”
Kaitlyn Kneidinger, St. George

“Make sure you come to the Open House and shadow!”
Alex Nestor, Walnut Creek Middle School
SAVE THE DATE!
LAKER GLOW 5K/1 MILE FUN WALK @ MPS
APRIL 16, 2016
To register for the race go to mpslakers.com/lakerglow

Noah earned a silver medal for his second place finish in the PIAA Class A cross-country race in Hershey.

Morgan medaled in cross-country in the girls Class AA. She signed a National Letter of Intent to continue her academic and athletic career at Duquesne University.

Pictured l to r: Alex Baldwin, Sophia DiNicola, coach Kelly Erven Maslar, Nicole Freeman, Audrey Bell, assistant coach Jenny Wilson, Ruth Golden, Francesca Kern, Josie Barcley, and Caitlyn Schultz.

TEENNIS CHAMPS MAKE HISTORY!
Our girls tennis team made history this year by winning their Fourth Consecutive PIAA State Championship in Hershey, PA!!! They defeated District 7 champion Beaver High School at the Hershey Racquet Club. The only other D-10 team to achieve four consecutive state championships is Kennedy Catholic boys basketball. Hats off to alumnae coaches Kelly Erven Maslar (head coach) and assistant coach Jenny Wilson for serving as stellar role models and outstanding coaches.
Check us out at mpslakers.com! Marked by pride and spirit!

Alex Schroek made his 100th soccer goal this year! He is pictured here with Mr. Hank Barbour, librarian, teacher and spirit squad leader.

L to r: Nicole Leone Hornaman and Yue (Jesse) Gao

Alumna Nicole Leone Hornaman, communications and marketing coordinator for the Community Blood Bank, presented Yue (Jesse) Gao with a $250 Visa gift card for winning the Community Blood Bank’s tee shirt design contest. The contest was open to all NW Pennsylvania and western New York state high schools.

The MPS Women in Motion club members annually participate in the Making Strides for Breast Cancer Research Walk and raise thousands of dollars for this cause.
Our MPS team won second place at Gannon University’s Calculus Bee. There were 19 teams from six schools. The team included (l to r): Ashley Khouri, Sampson Yuan and Molly Manafo.

(L to r): Lauren Ganger, Madison Burhenn, Ben Waldee and Conor Banta are among 34,000 high performers who were named Commended Students. They received a letter of commendation and were honored by adding a leaf to the outdoor mural for their outstanding accomplishment.

NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED STUDENTS
We are very pleased to announce that four of our students have been named National Merit Commended students. They are being recognized for the exceptional academic promise demonstrated by their outstanding performance on the qualifying test used for program entry.

Laker Model UN students earned the third place award for best delegation at the conference at Gannon, where they competed against 28 schools from across the state, over 300 students in total. Also, juniors Jacob Barilla and Ben Glennon earned the outstanding delegate award. Senior Michael Geary earned the third place award for outstanding delegate.

Participants included (L to r back): Danijel Corovic, Logan Dimperio, Tommy Russell, Marshall Dimperio, and Michael Geary; (front): Sophia Wang, Selena Zheng (Jeng), Francesco Corso, Ben Glennon, Jacob Barilla, Olivia Schultz and Omene Addeh. Missing from photo was Urenna Orazulike and Yiming Wang (Leo).
Our 2016 International Baccalaureate Diploma Candidates are seniors (back l to r): Xavier Zonna, Ryan Boorum, Conor Banta, Ben Waldee, Bennett McCoy, and Yukun (Sampson) Yuan; (front l to r): Audrey Bell, Ashley Khouri, and Madison Burhenn. Missing from photo is Patrick Frauenknecht.

Mercyhurst Prep has been an International Baccalaureate World School for over 30 years, making us expert in preparing our student’s for the demands of university academics.

Students taking five IB tests or more this year are Adam Beaufort and Frank Corso.

Mercyhurst Prep is the ONLY high school offering the International Baccalaureate program in northwest Pennsylvania.

An IB education will offer you as a Laker an environment where you can nurture and develop the lifelong skills of critical thinking, communication, & integration of information through in-depth study.

KUDOS TO IB DIPLOMA HOLDERS

Congratulations to our 2015 Mercyhurst Prep International Baccalaureate Diploma recipients pictured here with their advisor. L to r (back): Dan Fitzgerald, Brennen Staaf, Devin Petit, and Alex Kruszewski; (front) Katie Butler, Julia (Zhiyi) Zhu, IB director Mrs. Kathy Donovan, Lauren Petrella and Amanda Simmons.
On February 18, four of our eight Speech & Debate competitors made it into the top three in their respective events (l to r): Molly Manafo - 2nd in Oral Interpretation, Jacob Barilla - 1st in Extemporaneous, Morgan Martinucci - 1st in Oral Interpretation and Rhianne Martinucci - 3rd in Oral Interpretation. Advisor is Sam Barlekoff.

Senior class officers and their advisor are pictured here from Touch of Class Day, where students plan and execute an assembly that showcases student talent. Representatives included Jacob Surkala (president), Alex Sienerth (historian), Emily Bahm (secretary), Ms. Sarah Gdaniec, Maria Borowy (9th grade liaison), Annie Montefiori (treasurer), and Mark Gorski (vice president).

In celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, the gifted artists in our Visual Arts faculty, along with student members of the National Art Honor Society, created a beautiful work of art on our main chapel doors to help us inaugurate the Year of Mercy here at MPS.

Passing through those doors symbolizes a passing through the struggles of life and into the merciful heart of our heavenly Father.

Olivia Miller received the “Spirit of the Game Award” at the Bayview Academy (a Mercy School) Classic in Rhode Island this winter. The award is given to a hardworking athlete with a great attitude and a love for the game of basketball.

MeetMPS Photo contributors: Daniel J. Smith Photography, Gary Laboski Photography and Marcia Izbicki Gensheimer
One day in February was not a typical day for English teacher, Mrs. Deborah Swanson, when she realized an entourage from WJET-TV, Edinboro University and MPS were entering her Humanities IB class. The troupe was there to honor her with the Edinboro University WJET-TV Golden Apple Award. She was nominated by senior Ryan Boorum, who said, “She shows a true sense of compassion to her students and cares about her students more than just what their letter grade is. Mrs. Swanson makes her classroom feel like home and always makes sure to have a warm and inviting environment.”

Sophomore Elizabeth Kerner’s pen and ink, and colored pencil holiday design of the Watson Curtze mansion was selected as the official 2015 Christmas card for the City of Erie. In addition to the mailing list for the City, this card was also sent to Erie’s International Sister Cites in Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico; Zibo, China; Dungarven, Ireland; and Lublin, Poland. Elizabeth is a painting student in Mrs. Chris Bowler’s class.

Ms. Kerner also created a charcoal drawing of Mercyhurst Seminary alumna Louise Courtelis’ (Class of 1950) horse, Stopchargingmaria, the winner of the first race of this year’s Breeders’ Cup. Art teacher Ms. Lindsey Corle helped Elizabeth with this drawing.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following senior soccer players who signed Letters of Intent on February 3 (l to r):

Patrick Frauenknecht - Gannon University, Alex Schroek - Gannon University, Hannah Marchant - St. Francis, Eliza Pilatowski - Seton Hill, Jen Shreve – Akron and Amanda Johnson - John Carroll.
MPS is the ONLY internationally competitive rowing team in the area, and many of our students receive college scholarships for rowing. There will be a summer rowing camp for those of you interested in learning these skills.