



Welcome to the 2019-2020 McLean High School (MHS) Community!

Whether you are new to our school or returning for another year, please know how much we value you and your family as members of our Highlander community!

We are an inclusive organization welcoming of diverse ideas, cultures, and people. Our mission is to create and uphold a community where all learners are challenged to reach their full potential, reveals the dedication, focus, and learning environment our students experience during their time at MHS.

As a PTSA, we have the opportunity to support MHS's mission through membership, donations, and volunteer service. [Please join us!](#)

## STUDENTS

- Support growing population through purchases of furniture and equipment to modernize classrooms (technology, space, and safety) and accommodate temporary classroom trailers
- Reintroduce Senior Ethics Day beginning with the Class of 2020 on September 10, 2019 – This remarkable event challenges our seniors to prepare for ethical decision-making in life after high school. [Join us](#) as we help our students as they prepare to embark on the next chapter of their lives and find out more about how you can assist with the Ethics Day Committee.
- Plan All Night Grad Party (ANGP) – Each year an army of PTSA volunteers join forces to give our senior class a fun, safe way to celebrate graduation

## STAFF

- Support our teachers and staff through funding grants, for the benefit of our students. For example:
  - Purchase of mobile journalism equipment for broadcast journalism classes
  - Establish a free voluntary reading program for Spanish classes
  - Support production of the MHS literary magazine, *The Tartan*
  - Provide LexisNexis for the library
  - Show a stage production of *Romeo and Juliet* to freshman English students
- Sponsor a teacher bingo contest to support and encourage continuing education of staff

- Thank our teachers, administration, and staff for their dedication to our students by hosting breakfasts and lunches throughout the year, in addition to Highlander Appreciation Week in May

## COMMUNITY

- Enhance communication through the [PTSA website](#), Twitter, and Facebook
- Support McLean Matters: provide funding for backpacks, sweatpants/hoodies, and holiday gift cards for families in need
- Provide incentive gift cards for FCPS Credit Recovery Program students (70+ MHS students attended) and thank you gift cards for participating MHS staff
- Support pyramid-wide activities, including speakers and book talks

## PARENTS

- Provide AtoZ Connect, a digital platform to verify your family entry and sign up for PTSA membership at same time
- In partnership with MHS Student Services and the Safe Community Coalition, connect and help parents navigate the high school journey
  - Hold parent coffees about topics tailored to each grade-level
  - Plan book clubs and speaker programs on the latest topics. For example: Vaping/Juuling, documentary screenings of “Angst” and “Like,” and speaker programs on “Launching your High School Student” and *The Self-Driven Child: The Science and Sense of Giving Your Kids More Control Over Their Lives*.

## HEALTH & WELLNESS (H&W)

- Develop and implement programming designed to support the physical and emotional well-being of the MHS community:
  - Staff “Wellness Wednesdays” at school (e.g. therapy dogs, yoga, stress-relieving games and activities)
  - Plan weekly parent coffees outside of school, tied to topics helping us navigate the school from a H&W perspective
  - Support our School Clubs, which provide opportunities for students to widen their circle of friends, experiences, and connection to the school

[Please join us](#) as we strive to serve the students, teachers, administration, staff, and families at McLean. Please know that none of this would be possible without your involvement and support. The greater involvement we have, the more we can do together!

Yours in Service,

**Deena Gordon Parla**  
[president@mcleanptsa.org](mailto:president@mcleanptsa.org)