

# WARRIOR BUZZ

## Great Things are Happening at Mercy High

- FFA & PLTW in the Drivers Seat
- Accomplished Faculty

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### *FFA Program Gains Momentum*

Future Farmers of America, now in its fifth year at Mercy High, is a program that hit the ground running and just keeps gaining momentum. Each year, the program has added A-G courses and now, five are offered including Ag Systems Management, Ag Soil Chemistry, and Ag Business Math, among others. Participation in the Tehama District Fair is a large draw to the program.. The first year, just four students raised livestock, and in the past two years, the club celebrated a Reserve Champion lamb, and Champion and Reserve Champion rabbits. This year, nineteen students will be practicing their animal husbandry skills all spring in anticipation of showmanship and sale of their animals.

The club also celebrated its first honoree for an FFA State Degree, in President Aubrey Bell.

Speaking competitions have been a new addition the past two years, and four students have advanced to compete at the Sectional Speaking Contest in late February. State Conference and various leadership team events have also been well attended by the group. Our FARMS team will complete seven industry field trips this school year.

Ag education has been an important focus this year. Business Math students periodically visit our sister elementary school to do Ag instruction to younger students. The program has filled a much needed niche for many of our students who see an element of agriculture in their future.

### Highlights.....

- 0% dropout rate
- 99% graduation rate
- 95% of graduates go on to post-secondary education
- 95% of graduates complete College Board A-G requirements
- Class of 2019 has earned over 1.15 million in merit scholarship dollars to date
- 10 Advanced Placement courses taught onsite
- Individualized college counseling
- Atmosphere of Christian values
- low teacher/student ratio
- 1:1 device ratio
- technology rich environment
- Apple TV in all classrooms
- Future Farmers of America
- PLTW accredited courses
- Athletics
- Performing Arts
- Student Leadership
- STREAM Academy for 7th & 8th grade

CALL US FOR A TOUR OR TO SHADOW  
FOR THE DAY. WE'D LOVE TO SHARE  
OUR SCHOOL WITH YOU!



Mrs. Brock consults with Mrs. Penner



Clayton  
Baumgartner

## Grads Reaching for More

The Mercy High School 2019 graduating class began the year motivated, to say the least. With the college planning guidance they had received over their prior three years with us, they began college applications even before our annual college application assistance days. Shortly after school began, many were making announcements to the department about acceptances.

Additionally, not unlike our class of 2016 graduating class, who earned over 1.3 million in merit scholarships, this class of 25 has 1.15 million in merit scholarship offers to date. Once financial aid packages roll in, these seniors will have some noteworthy options.

Colleges who have recognized our students include: Montana State, Texas Lutheran, Baylor, Univ. of Texas, Santa Clara, Lewis and Clark, Univ. of Alabama, Grand Canyon, UNR, Northwest Christian, William Jessup, several CSU's, Washington State, St. Martins, Willamette Univ, Kings College and more! Way to go class of 2019!

## *Mrs. Morgan Brock*

Morgan Brock has been teaching at Mercy High since 2015. Morgan and her husband, Derek, both were born and raised in Gridley where they attended high school. She attended Chico State University where she earned her bachelor's degree and teaching credential in Science and Agricultural Science. Mrs. Brock did her student teaching at Durham High School and Marysville High School before coming to Mercy, and now teaches Math, Science, all of the Ag courses and is the FFA adviser for our school. She also advises the Junior Class, who hosts the prom each year. Her new plans for FFA next year include development of a piece of barren ground into an experimental orchard with grapes and nuts, and installation of a large greenhouse on school property that students will maintain. New to science class this year will be the introduction of small engine instruction.

Mrs. Brock is currently completing her Master's Degree in Agricultural Education and will attend Project Lead the Way training this summer in preparation for Mercy's Ag Engineering program.

Mercy is very lucky to have Mrs. Brock and her dedication and talent. She brings a very respected and well liked personality to our campus.

## *Welcome Mr. Clayton Baumgartner*

Mercy High School is pleased to announce that Mr. Clayton Baumgartner, a graduate of our Diocesan Leadership Academy, has joined the faculty at Mercy High School as a religion teacher and campus minister.

A native of Chico, Mr Baumgartner offers strong qualifications for this position. He has a BA in Philosophy and Literature from Mt. Angel College and Seminary, and an MA in Divinity from St. Patrick's Seminary and University. He has completed a Spanish Language Immersion program at the University of Mexico City, and has a Single Subject Teaching Credential from Brandman University. Mr Baumgartner brings a love of teaching and zeal for Catholic education to his ministry. We are confident that he will serve our students and the entire community well.