Happy New Year Cobras and Welcome Back for the Spring Semester!!! The 2020-2021 school year will continue to be an exciting and adventurous school year. Some time during this semester some of us will return to in-person learning, while the others will remain in virtual learning. I challenged our WCHS Faculty earlier this year to be flexible and adaptable throughout the entire school year, and I am now challenging you to do this as well. The Spring Semester will bring new challenges for us all; however, we will succeed together as a family. This semester we will attend all of our Core Classes every day during our regularly scheduled class time, and we will attend PLT virtually on Tuesdays & Thursdays. We encourage you to attend all of your classes every day, and to stay on-track in all classes. As always, if you need anything please do not hesitate in reaching out to me through e-mail, Schoology, or school text line. Let’s RISE UP and Be Even Greater this semester!!

Sincerely,
Dr. Brian J. Mells
E-books Now Available for Checkout!
You can now checkout e-books from the Whites Creek Library through MackinVIA! You can use the website, or download the app!

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Asking for a Friend | Advice Column
How do you catfish someone? Asking for a friend lol.

· Let me start this off by saying catfishing someone is NEVER ok unless...you're catfishing a horrible person 😁. No, but seriously I'm going to just hope that this is for entertainment purposes only.

• First, setup a life story for your fake person. Choose a name, an age, height, where they live, how many people are in their family, etc.
• Next, find pictures to match how you want your person to look. Try using pictures that aren’t at the top of Google Search because they can be found easily. People like using mirror pictures that have the flash on, so the face isn’t really visible.
• Post on your story often. Try to be as active as possible so nothing seemed suspicious.
• Build the profile over time (adding friends, making comments, etc.) to give the appearance of a valid/genuine person.
• Build good relationships with the people you talk to. By doing this, people will believe you are real.

Sincerely, Yvonne

New Books Available on MackinVIA

Senior Spotlight

Shante' Johnson
Shante' is a phenomenal student who is a delight to have in class. She's very inquisitive and puts her best into all of her work. This young lady has a great future ahead of her.
My favorite book of all time is The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime. This book is from the perspective of a child with Asperger's Syndrome and is both interesting, and critical, for developing empathy. I majored in Psychology in college and find all books focused on mental health very interesting.

One challenge that made me a much more adaptable and empathetic person was teaching English in Thailand. Experiencing culture, religion, and climate that were so unfamiliar to me made me a stronger, and more compassionate, person. I experienced a year and a half of cold showers, geckos in my bedroom, squatty potties, and the spiciest food I have ever had, but the experience was truly incredible. I am always happy to share more about this experience with students who are interested in traveling.

What is your favorite book?
My favorite book of all time is The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime. This book is from the perspective of a child with Asperger's Syndrome and is both interesting, and critical, for developing empathy. I majored in Psychology in college and find all books focused on mental health very interesting.

What brings you joy?
I love spending time with my three nieces. They live in California and I love spending time with them at the beach.

What is the last show you binge-watched?
I just finished Undoing on HBO Max. It was a murder mystery and very interesting. I love a good murder mystery that keeps me guessing who did it.

What is an example of a challenge that has helped you grow?
One challenge that made me a much more adaptable and empathetic person was teaching English in Thailand. Experiencing culture, religion, and climate that were so unfamiliar to me made me a stronger, and more compassionate, person. I experienced a year and a half of cold showers, geckos in my bedroom, squatty potties, and the spiciest food I have ever had, but the experience was truly incredible. I am always happy to share more about this experience with students who are interested in traveling.
Science Department

The science department is still working hard to provide students with ample opportunities to learn in the virtual space. Aside from the various techniques teachers have been using to ensure student success, they have also implemented the following: recording lessons, the use of breakout rooms, and standards mastery tracker. After school tutoring and student achievement is a top priority that stands out through our teachers’ hard work, innovation, and dedication. They care about our Cobras and are determined to help them “Rise UP”!

Social Sciences Department

During the Fall Semester, students were exposed to high-quality primary and secondary sources. Helping our students navigate the Florida Virtual Curriculum, the department aligned these resources to our standards and used them to help our students master the objectives. Additionally, our teachers planned engaging lessons to help students grow in their love of history while understanding how historical events help shape our current world. We are so proud of the work that our students have done this semester and look forward to the Spring Semester.

English Department

The English Department has spent the last few weeks of this semester working on writing and helping students to develop their ideas clearly. Additionally, the focus has been on how to write with a scholarly and professional tone. Whether scholars go on to college, or to the work force, these are two skills we want graduates of Whites Creek to have.

The English teachers continue to encourage students to communicate their developing thinking as it relates to texts they have explored. We believe each scholar has something valuable to share, so whether it is in the chat, or on the microphone, we want our Cobras to engage with us by telling us what they are wondering, thinking and learning.

Math Department

The Math Department’s top priority during the Fall Semester was to help everyone during this unpredictable time by being flexible and understanding. Scholars completed a Benchmark Assessment and this data will be used to gear instruction during the Spring Semester. The department also challenged itself to make certain that all scholars were challenged daily and had the tools necessary to learn math concepts and skills to build resilience and thrive, as a math learner.