Mandarin Parents & Community Members -

It is with great excitement and privilege that I welcome you to the 2023-2024 school year at Mandarin High School. We enter this school year in a very good place academically and athletically. As the 2022-2023 All Sports Girls and Boys Gateway Conference Champions, Mandarin High School continues to shine, providing an outstanding experience for all 37 Varsity and Junior Varsity sports. As an academic powerhouse, when 2023 school grades are released at the state level, we are confident our accumulated points will bring us back to the status of an "A" school. It is a good time to be a Mustang.

Prior to joining Mustang Nation in June of 2020, I served for twenty years in three other Duval County Public Schools and often heard about <u>THE</u> Mandarin High School. I heard it was the "Flagship" high school in our district and that high levels of academic prowess and school spirit ran deep through the school and community. Within these conversations, the Mandarin Athletics Program was always noted and recognized as high performing and a model of excellence. As the proud Principal of such a well-renowned school, I am incredibly excited to support Mandarin Athletics in every way possible and I invite and encourage you to do the same.

As I move into my fourth year serving this tremendous community, allow me to share just a few reasons why the MHS Athletic Program is so successful. High expectations start from the top and our Mandarin High Athletic Director, Mr. Brian Rado, is the epitome of a strong leader. He insists upon excellence in every capacity. Mandarin coaches exude pride in their roles and student athletes are taught early on how important their place is as leaders and role models on our campus. A strong focus on teamwork, collaboration, work ethic and dedication weave their way through every sport and every season for the Mustangs. While winning games and championships is exhilarating and always the best outcome, the overarching goal for every educator and coach at Mandarin High School is to provide our student athletes with the experience of being part of something larger than themselves. Over the course of the 22-23 school year, the average GPA for every single sport was a 3.0 or higher. The academic expectations are solidly in line with the athletic expectations. Teaching our students to support their peers, respect teachers and coaches and give 100% of themselves each and every day are life lessons they will carry beyond the walls, halls, courts and fields of Mandarin High School.

With both successes and challenges in the rearview and so much potential on the horizon, the Mandarin High School faculty, staff, coaches and administration are more determined than ever to provide our student athletes with the most positive, rigorous and supportive experience possible each and every day. I am personally very grateful for your trust in our school and thank you for the opportunity to work with your most precious gift – your child.

"Sportsmanship to me is going out and playing as hard as you can within the rules."

Coach Bobby Bowden

We Are Mandarin in 2023-2024

Sara Bravo Principal