



July 2026

Dear Families and Students of our Mount Mercy Community:

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year! Whether you are a returning student or joining us for the first time, we are excited to have you as part of our school community.

To our returning students, we hope you are having a restful and enjoyable summer. The Mount Mercy Administration and Faculty are proud of everything you've accomplished so far and look forward to seeing you continue to grow, learn, and lead this year.

To our new students, we are thrilled to welcome you to our Mount Mercy Academy family! Starting a new chapter can be both exciting and a little overwhelming, but know that you are not alone. We are here to support you every step of the way, and we look forward to assisting with all that you will contribute to our school and community.

This school year brings new opportunities for learning, friendships, and personal growth. Our staff has been working hard to prepare a safe, inclusive, and engaging environment where every student can thrive. We encourage you to take part in school events, join clubs, ask questions, and always strive to do your best.

As we begin this journey together, remember that each day is a fresh start. Stay curious, stay kind, and stay committed to making this your best year yet. Mount Mercy Academy has set high academic standards while always providing support to our students, ensuring that together we accomplish goals with confidence in a positive and productive manner. Our mission is to prepare all of our students spiritually, personally, and academically on the way to becoming strong, empowered and confident young women.

Parents, we appreciate the investment you are making to provide your daughter with a Mercy education and we are committed to providing the highest quality instruction, with a spiritual foundation that will last a lifetime. Bearing in mind that the Critical Concerns of the Sisters of Mercy are at the forefront of our curriculum, we have established a mission of teaching kindness

and compassion based on the values and integrity of our beloved founder of the Sisters of Mercy, Mother Catherine McAuley.

Using the Project Based Learning model, we provide students the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills through hands-on learning, and guide them to develop problem solving skills applicable to real world experiences. This research based curriculum is an innovative and forward thinking approach to the ever changing world in which we live.

We have strengthened our "Academies within the Academy" in order to give students opportunities to experience internships, field work and speaker engagements by partnering with alumni, community members, local businesses and other key stakeholders who are passionate in the education of our students.

Before the school year begins, please be aware of a number of items of importance. Below are several reminders and a list of important dates over the next few weeks:

Summer Reading: This summer we will participate in an "all school" read. All students, faculty and staff will be required to read "The Girl With the Pearl Earring" by Tracy Chevalier. We will be sharing our reviews and discussing the book as it relates to the Critical Concerns of the Sisters of Mercy. English Honors and AP Classes have additional reading assignments, which have been shared with them.

Thursday August 20th 6:00 p.m. - Fall Sports meeting in the dining hall.

Tuesday, September 8, 2026 - ALL-STUDENT ORIENTATION.

Students will receive their schedule and have pictures taken for a photo ID, as well as receiving their Chromebooks and other activities. A detailed schedule of the day is included.

Wednesday, September 9th - Opening Day Mass and first day of classes for all students!

Wednesday, September 16th, at 6:00 p.m. is Meet the Teacher night for all students and parents. Please enter through Door 3 located on the right when looking at the building on Red Jacket Parkway. This evening will provide a plethora of information and parents and students will have an opportunity to learn more about academics, extracurricular activities and other opportunities at Mount Mercy. All families are encouraged to attend, however we strongly encourage our new students and parents to attend this information event.

Athletics: Questions regarding Athletics, contact Belle Oakley at ioakley@mtmercy.org

Main Office: Summer Hours: Open from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and closed on Fridays for the summer. Questions should be directed to Mrs. Julianne Cusack at jcusak@mtmercy.org phone.: 716-825-8796 ext. 109.

Counseling Office: Our Counseling Office has limited availability during the summer, however there are days school counselors will be available. All immediate questions and concerns regarding the Counseling Department should be directed to Mrs. Elayna Snyder at esnyder@mtmercy.org or 716-825-8796 ext. 211.

Tuition or Financial Aid Information:

Tuition Office: Mrs. Julie Decarolis - jdecarolis@mtmercy.org or 716-825-8796 ext. 302

Financial Aid: Ms. Erin Ryan - eryan@mtmercy.org or 716-825-8796 ext. 303.

We look forward to the upcoming school year with you!

In Mercy,

Margaret Staszak

Ms. Margaret Cuthbert '75 Staszak

Interim Head of School