

AUGUST 28, 2026

IN THE LOOP

Mead Hall Episcopal School



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FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

During the first weeks of school, I believe that it is important to highlight and reinforce our core values as a school community to our students. At Middle and Upper School Chapel I spoke about three things during my announcements:

Powerful words – How they can cause so much harm to others and the community
Conflict resolution – How to manage this by being assertive and an active listener
Knowing when to ask for help – When to report something to the teacher or administrator

These three are vital areas of growth for our students as they prepare for life and they make such a difference to their happiness and experience of community while in school.

Offensive words and insults have no place at Mead Hall. I call these “powerful words” because of their power to hurt. Words that are used as weapons can harm others deeply and damage relationships between people. Students may face a strong temptation to use insults in order to appear strong, or in response to others when they are frustrated, angry, or hurt. But they can choose to respond respectfully.

Conflict resolution is a challenge at any age, but particularly for young people. It starts with good communication through assertiveness and active listening. When we can assert ourselves and share our voice, the stronger we can become. However, we must assert ourselves with respect, otherwise our assertiveness becomes a weapon for power and harm. Respectfully standing up for ourselves and others is essential. Similarly, we need to be able to listen just as we expect to be heard. The correct balance of assertiveness and active listening enables us to resolve conflict. At Mead Hall, we are glad to provide opportunities for students to learn conflict resolution, in the classroom and on the playground.

However, some conflicts or harms may be too severe for students to resolve independently. I emphasize that they must recognize when to seek adult assistance and report incidents that require administrative intervention, appropriate discipline, and restorative healing. We want every student to feel physically and emotionally safe at Mead Hall, and they should never hesitate to make a report so we can take immediate action.

We are blessed by the dedication of our staff and inspired by our students, who grow in strength, character, and God’s grace each day.

Blessings,

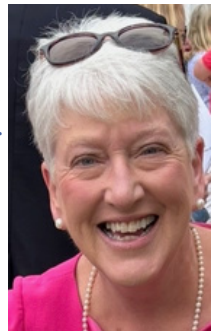
The Rev. Dr. Frank Sawyer

coming SOON

ADVANCEMENT & DEVELOPMENT

BEYOND THE BOARDROOM

This year, we're excited to bring our Mead Hall community Beyond the Boardroom and introduce you to the dedicated individuals who serve on our Board of Trustees. We begin with our newest Trustee, Susan Wade, whose connection to Mead Hall is anything but new. With 34 years in education—including six years serving as Mead Hall's Head of Lower School—Susan brings a wealth of experience, a deep understanding of our school community, and a heart for its mission. Now serving on the Strategic Planning Committee, she brings a unique perspective as both a longtime educator and someone who knows firsthand what makes Mead Hall so special.



MEET SUSAN WADE:

I am honored to join the Mead Hall Episcopal School Board of Trustees and to serve on the Strategic Planning Committee. Having spent my career in education, I am excited for the opportunity to continue serving a school and community that are very special to me.

I am a proud product of Aiken County Public Schools and a graduate of Columbia College. I devoted 34 years to education, spending much of my career teaching middle school. I was also fortunate to serve as Head of Mead Hall's Lower School for six years, an experience that gave me an even greater appreciation for the students, families, faculty, and traditions that make Mead Hall such a special place.

Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of working closely with students, teachers, and families. I hope to bring my experience in education, leadership, and strategic planning to the Board as we work together to support Mead Hall's mission and its future.

My connection to Mead Hall is closely tied to my faith and my longtime membership at St. Thaddeus Episcopal Church. Over the years, I have enjoyed serving our church through Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. I am proud of the special relationship between St. Thaddeus and Mead Hall and grateful for another opportunity to serve this community.

Outside of school and church, my greatest joy is my family. I am married to my high school sweetheart, Ronnie Wade, and we have two wonderful children, Andrew and Katherine, and three beautiful grandchildren, Maggie, Wade, and Caroline. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to give back to a school and community that have been such an important part of my life.



Welcome back to Mead Hall in a new role, Susan! We are grateful to have your experience, heart, and leadership around the Board table.

THE 2026-2027 ANNUAL FUND

Invest in those who invest in our children.

Every day at Mead Hall, our faculty and staff invest far more than time in our students. They encourage curiosity, celebrate accomplishments, nurture talents, build confidence, and create the meaningful moments that shape a child's school experience.

This fall, we will invite our Mead Hall community to return that investment through the 2026-2027 Annual Fund. This year's campaign will place special emphasis on investing in our educators while continuing to support the people, programs, opportunities, and spaces that make the Mead Hall experience possible.

And this year, we're adding something personal.

When families make an Annual Fund commitment, they will have the opportunity to share a "Because of You..." message with a teacher or staff member who has made a difference in their child's life. Those words of gratitude will be personally delivered throughout the campaign—allowing your investment to come full circle. **Gift amounts will always remain confidential.**

Because when we invest in those who invest in our children, the entire Mead Hall community grows stronger.

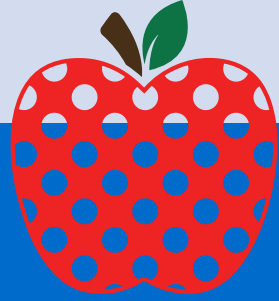
Watch for more details coming soon.



Development Office Contact

Director Advancement & Development
Emily Murphy
emurphy@meadhallschool.org

LOWER SCHOOL NEWS



Big Dreams Start Small

Dolly Parton once said, *"If you see someone without a smile, give 'em yours!"* That joyful spirit feels right at home in our Lower School. Like Dolly herself, our youngest students are encouraged to dream big, lead with kindness, stay curious, and never underestimate where a little imagination can take them. Whether they're discovering a new favorite book, creating something beautiful, helping a friend, or finding the confidence to try something new, our students remind us that big dreams often begin in small places. As Dolly famously reminds us, "You'll never do a whole lot unless you're brave enough to try."

See you at school,

Allie Kistler

STC Office Manager



Upcoming Dates

August

- 28 K PJ Day Mother Goose Reading
- 31 Field Trip 1st Grade to RPSEC

September

- 4 Chick Fil-A Day
- 7 Labor Day (No School)
- 11 Field Trip - PK to Trinity
- 15 Field Trip - 4th Grade to Augusta Canal
- 15 Fall Pictures- STC *Red or blue polo with khaki bottoms*
- 16 Special Chapel & Kindergarten Chapel for Bishop visit
- 17 Field Trip - PS to Library
- 22 Field Trip - 2nd Grade Aiken Trolley Tour
- 24 Field Trip 1st Grade to RPSEC
- 21-25 Book Fair
- 27 Mead Hall Sunday

3rd Grade Arrays

In Ms. Steelman's class, we are building arrays with units of 4.



Preschool Centers

Mrs. Serago's young learners have dedicated zones to learn and practice both fine and gross motor coordination, along with fostering tactile curiosity.





MIDDLE & UPPER SCHOOL NEWS

BIG ADVENTURES. BIGGER MEMORIES.

Days 5–7 of the school year were spent together as an Upper School community during our annual Mountain Madness retreat. Forty students and four chaperones (and our own volunteer photographer, Mr. Larry) made the trek to Valle Crucis, North Carolina after visiting Newberry College in Newberry, SC, on Wednesday, August 12, 2026.

The students enjoyed touring the college and learning more about the opportunities available to them. By evening, after a little bus trouble along the way, we had all arrived safely and gathered for dinner—one of several wonderful meals prepared by the Valle Crucis staff. The students spent the evening playing ping-pong, socializing on the porch overlooking the beautiful valley, and simply enjoying time together.



On Thursday, we began the day with Chapel, led by Father Joseph, before heading out for whitewater rafting. The students braved the cold water and rainy weather, with some experiencing rafting for the very first time! Later that evening, after another delicious dinner, we gathered around a bonfire for s'mores and more time bonding.

Friday wrapped up our adventure with a day of thrills at Carowinds before making the safe drive back to Aiken.

I believe a wonderful time was had by all. More importantly, friendships were strengthened, new experiences were shared, and memories were made that our students will carry with them for years to come!

PANTHER PLANNER

[View Full Calendar](#)

SEPT. 1

Senior Sunrise
6:30 a.m.

SEPT. 4

Chick-Fil-A
Lunch

SEPT. 3

College Night
5 p.m.

SEPT. 7

Labor Day
No School

WEAREMEADHALL

RYIAN SANDERS SPENDS TIME AT ERSKINE COLLEGE

On Thursday, August 20th, at 7:00 am, Mead Hall senior Ryian Sanders presented her top 5 things about her RYLA experience to the members of Aiken-Sunrise and other visitors. From the very beginning she captured her audience by describing the drive with her family to a city in South Carolina that she had never heard of, Due West, South Carolina! Not only did she deliver an informative summary of the people she met

and the activities she participated in, she also spoke warmly about the connections she made while visiting Erskine College for a week. The members of Aiken-Sunrise, including Ryian's host, Sharon Johnson and other visitors appeared to enjoy hearing Ryian describe her camp experience. Joining Ryian for the breakfast meeting was her mother, Shavon Sanders, her grandmother, Evonia Sanders and Dr. Ponttoo, Director of Admissions and College Guidance.



ERSKINE
COLLEGE



Why Attend the CSRA College Night Event?

- ALL students can explore over 100 College and Universities
- ALL students can connect with college representatives throughout the United States
- FOR SENIORS ONLY: Any senior with a 2.5 GPA or higher may register to win a \$1,000.00 scholarship\$\$\$
- ALL students and their families can attend seminars on SC & GA Financial Aid, Financial Literacy, SRS Apprenticeships
- ALL students can visit the Career Exploration Center & Counseling Center to help guide your school/career path
- ALL students can learn about workforce opportunities at the Savannah River Site
- Link to register before the fair at www.StriveFair.com.
- Learn more at www.StriveScan.com

The 2026 CSRA College Night event is right around the corner, Thursday, September 3rd, 5pm-8pm at the Augusta Convention Center in downtown Augusta, GA. The event is for all high school students grades 9-12.

More information can be found [HERE!](#)



September 3, 2026
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Augusta Convention Center
901 Reynolds Street
Augusta, GA 30901
9th-12th Grade Students
and Parents

**Higher Education &
Career Opportunities**

Activities include:
\$1000 Scholarship Drawings
for 12th Grade Students,
Counseling and Career Exploration Centers

Seminars on:
Financial aid, SRS apprenticeships,
scholarship opportunities, and more

RECOGNIZING OUR ALUMNI DEAN'S LIST ACHIEVERS

We are proud to congratulate the following alumni and students who earned a spot on the Dean's List for the Spring 2026 semester:

Gordon Lawson – College of the Holy Cross
Arein Delariarte – College of Charleston
Anne Fenton Massie – Wofford College
Jason Shawn Leonard – Wofford College
Esther Marks – Presbyterian College



COLLEGE OF THE
Holy Cross

WOFFORD
COLLEGE

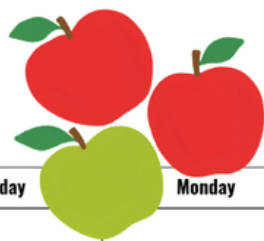


COLLEGE OF
CHARLESTON



PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE
Go True Blue

Congratulations to these students on their hard work and dedication to academic excellence!



September

PTO
NEWSLETTER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 	5
6	7 NO SCHOOL	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 PTO DAY 	17	18 TSHIRT DESIGNS DUE 	19
20	21	22	23 OCT. CFA ORDERS DUE	24	25	26
	BOOKFAIR					
27  PANCAKE BREAKFAST	28	29	30			

PTO DAY

EACH MONTH ON PTO DAY, THE PTO WILL RESTOCK THE TEACHER WORKROOMS FROM THE DONATIONS BROUGHT IN, AND PULL A NAME FOR OUR STAR TEACHER OF THE MONTH!

AUGUST'S STAR TEACHER

MRS. SERAGO WON PTO STAR TEACHER FOR AUGUST! SHE WAS TREATED TO A LUNCH OF HER CHOOSING, LUNCH COVERAGE FROM PTO VOLUNTEERS, AS WELL AS A BLUE COLLARD CASSEROLE TO TAKE HOME FOR DINNER!

CONTACT INFO

PTO@MEADHALLSCHOOL.ORG

 MEAD HALL PTO

THIS MONTH



9.4 CHICK-FIL-A DAY

9.16 PTO DAY

9.18 STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
TSHIRT DESIGNS DUE

9.21-9.27 BOOKFAIR (LOOK FOR
SIGN UP GENIUS SOON!)

9.23 OCTOBER CFA ORDERS DUE

PARENT SHOUT-OUT

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED ITEMS FOR THE TEACHER WORKROOMS! THIS WILL HELP US KEEP OUR TEACHERS FUELED FOR A FEW MONTHS!



NEXT MONTH



10.2 CHICK-FIL-A DAY

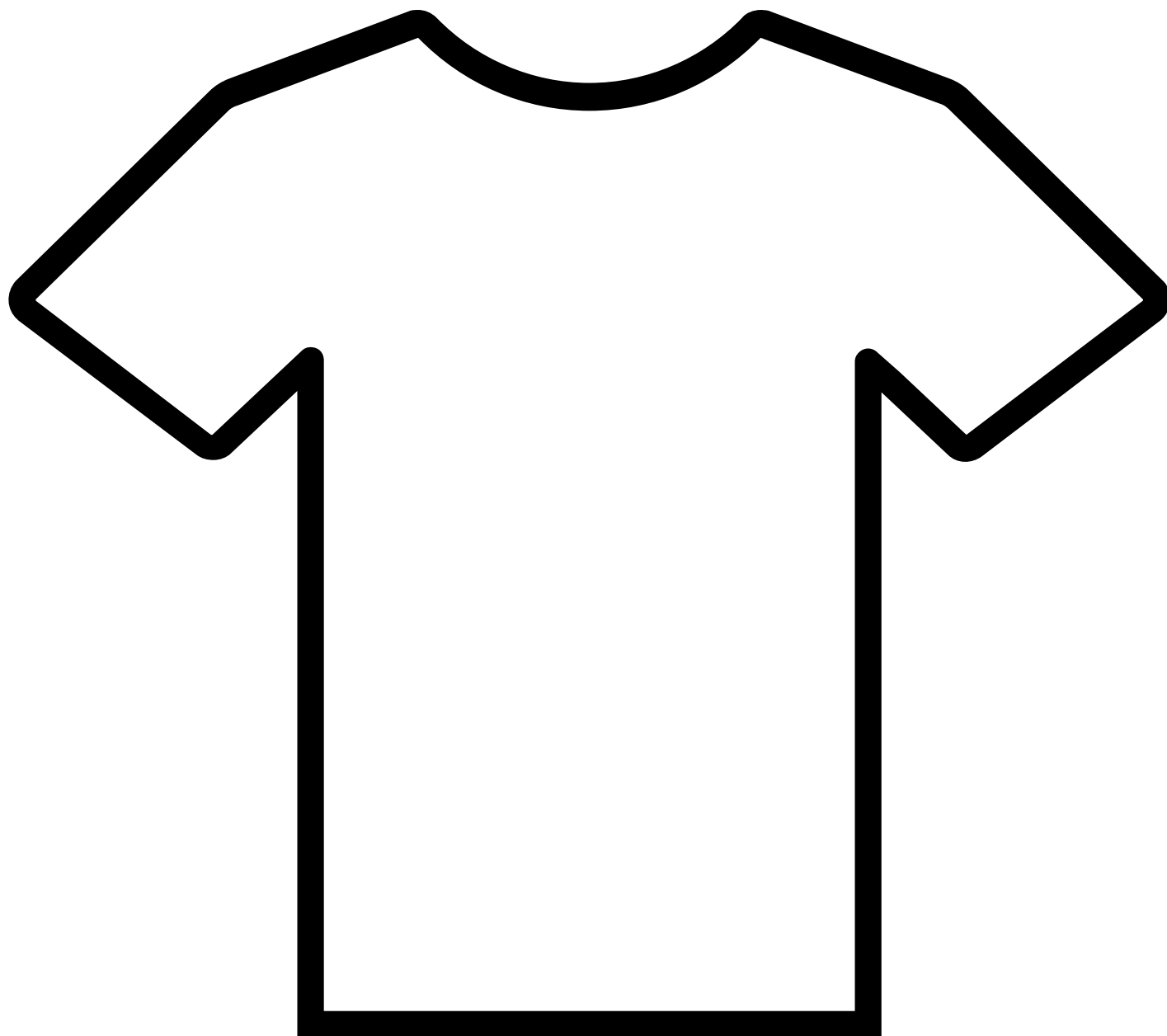
10.5-10.9 FALL BREAK

10.24 FALL FESTIVAL

10.30 GREAT PUMPKIN
WALL

2027 Strawberry Festival T-Shirt Design Competition

Time to get creative! We are excited to give YOU the opportunity to design this year's Strawberry Festival T-Shirt! Submissions will be voted on by PTO and the top designs will be sent out to our Mead Hall Community for final judgement! Design submissions are due to PTO by September 18th.



STUDENT NAME: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____

You may submit your design to your teacher or email a copy to pto@meadhallschool.org
Please feel free to use more paper for your artwork if needed!

SCHOOL STORE HOURS

AUGUST 31 - SEPT 4



Email MHStore@meadhallschool.org for appointment requests

M

Open 8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.

T

Open 8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.

W

Open 8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.

T

Open 8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.

F



Item of the Week

**NEW Mead Hall
Lanyards!!**

Perfect use for -
Keys
I.D. Badges
Coach Whistles
USB drives

\$ 4 ea.





MEAD HALL PANTHERS

highlights

JV Volleyball

The Lady Panthers took on the Augusta Eagles at their first home game of the season on Tuesday winning one set out of three. Coach Nikita said "we are seeing steady progress as the girls continue to develop their skills and build confidence."

MS/V Swimming

Unfortunately bad weather cancelled the Panthers first swim meet on Wednesday. That meet has now been rescheduled for September 14th. You can catch them on the pool deck again on August 31st at Woodside.

Varsity Volleyball

Tuesday's home match up against the Augusta Eagles was a tough loss for our Lady Panthers. Coach T shared that "while the result wasn't what we wanted, there were moments throughout the match that showed the fight, heart and determination of the team."

MS Golf



Middle Golfers Preston, Nathan, Cash, Win and Burck, represented the Panther golf team at their first matches of the season on Monday and Tuesday. The boys finished 2nd with a team total score 174 on Monday's match up against EDS and Augusta Christian. Congratulations to Cash Walker with a score of 43 and 2 birdies. Tuesday proved to be another successful match with an overall team score of 179 taking 2nd place out of 4 teams.



Games at a Glance

8/31

MS Tennis vs EDS at Fermata Club 4:00

MS Golf at Mount Vintage 4:00

MS/V Swim Meet at Woodside 6:00

JV/V Volleyball vs CCA 4:00/5:00

Student Section Theme - USA, Red/White/Blue



9/1

JV/V Volleyball @ JDA 4:00/5:00

9/2

MS Tennis @ St. Mary's Aiken 4:00

9/3

MS Flag Football vs Tall Pines 5:00

Varsity Cross Country South Aiken Meet 6:00

**[CLICK HERE TO
VISIT THE
EVENTS
CALENDAR](#)**



MEAD HALL PANTHERS

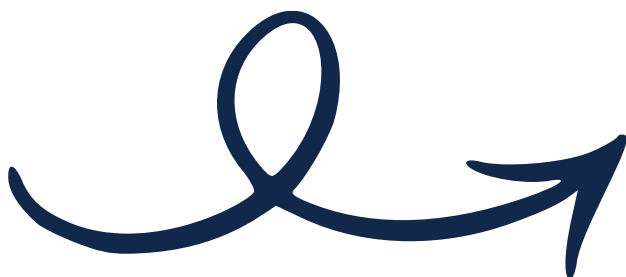


Calling all Panthers!

Sponsorships are available for the 2026-27 school year

One of the best ways to support our student-athletes is by becoming a Panther Club Sponsor. We have several different levels of sponsorship available, from our \$2500.00 Presenting Sponsor opportunity to our \$125.00 Panther Pack. Every level of sponsorship includes free admission to all home games for 2 adults! Any questions? Contact me at kelleypbrown@gmail.com.

For More Information



click here!



Worship Service

Summer Schedule

5/24 - 9/13

Sunday

7:45 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Being held in the Chapel of the Holy Apostles

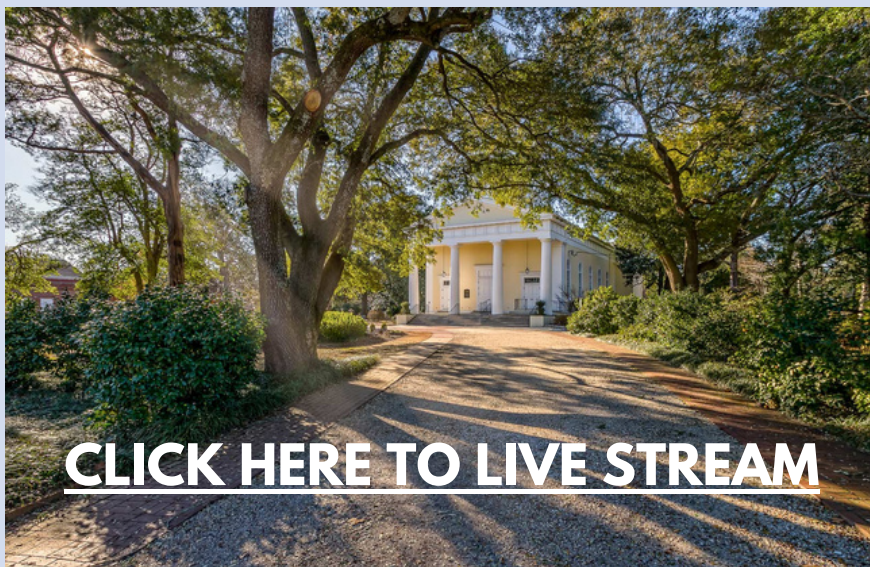
10 am - Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Music

Being held in the Cheatham Parlor

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9-3

Closed Fridays



CLICK HERE TO LIVE STREAM

