

MUSTANG NEWSLETTER



TRIVIA NIGHT, ANOTHER HUGE SUCCESS!

HELLO,
MERRILL
MUSTANGS!

Thank you to everyone for making Trivia Night another huge success! Together, we raised over \$8,000 for the Activities Department and more than \$5,000 for the PTA through the silent auction. Your support and generosity make a big impact, and we truly appreciate it. Can't wait to do it all again next year!



GO MUSTANGS!

TRACK SEASON UP NEXT



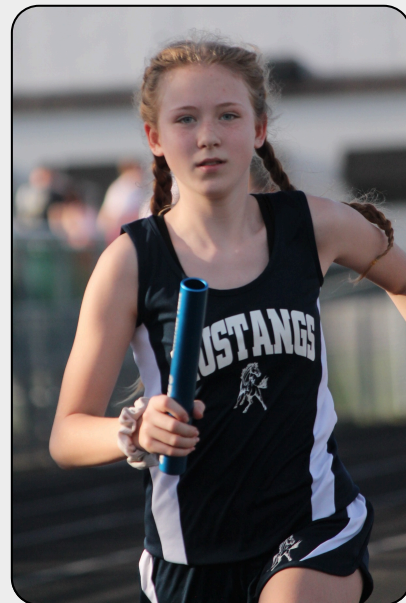
Track season kicks off March 4th, and we are excited to have over 130 boys and girls participating this year—making us the biggest team in the city!

Season Highlights:

- We will have approximately 5 track meets, depending on the weather.
- New Event Added! This year, Drake has introduced a Coed 4x400 relay, so in addition to the Boys 4x100 and Girls 4x100, we will now have this exciting new race.
- The City Track Meet is on April 21st, and Merrill is hosting! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Merrill Activities Office—we'd love your help in making this event a success.

Looking forward to a great season!

Go Mustangs!



A LONG-AWAITED BOWLING EXPERIENCE



Debts Paid but overdue!

One of the teacher experiences auctioned off at this year's PTA Silent Auction was a bowling outing, won by two lucky 7th graders. After school, we headed to Val Lanes for a few games—but before we got started, Mr. Severson reminded us of an unfulfilled promise from the past.

Back in March 2021, we had auctioned off a bowling experience, but that was the spring break when in-person school never resumed due to COVID. Mr. Severson hadn't forgotten, and neither had the original winners! We reached out to Will Puri, who is now headed to Drake University this fall, and his friend Sawyer Evans (headed to U of I), and they were happy to meet us at the lanes to finally claim their long-overdue teacher experience.

No matter how far removed from Merrill they are, our former students never forget what a special place it is. Bowling was fantastic, and a great time was had by all! 🎳

BOYS BASKETBALL WRAP-UP



Season Standings

Close, But Not This Year

The Merrill Mustangs 8th-grade boys' basketball team had a successful season, continuing to be the largest team in the Des Moines Metro with over 35 athletes participating. This year, we fielded three teams: White, Blue, and Silver.

The White team remained undefeated until the final two games, ultimately finishing 4th in the city. The Blue team had an impressive 7-1 record, tying for 1st place, but officially placed 2nd due to a head-to-head tiebreaker. The Silver team faced challenges with an 0-7 record, but despite the struggles, they had many great moments and showed strong determination throughout the season.

It was a great season for all teams, and we're proud of the effort and dedication shown by our athletes! Go Mustangs



Awards

Basketball Team Awards

The Merrill Mustangs had an incredible season, and we want to recognize the outstanding athletes who earned team awards for their effort, leadership, and performance on the court.

Blue Team:

- ✦ Mr. Hustle: Marshall Cloe
- ✦ Team Leader: Liam Rooney
- ✦ Defensive Player: Rashad Sowell
- ✦ MVP: Weston Vukovich

White Team:

- ✦ Mr. Hustle: David Green
- ✦ Team Leader: Abram Bintner
- ✦ Defensive Player: Zae Ross
- ✦ MVP: Braylen Jackson

Silver Team:

- ✦ Mr. Hustle: Jace Whitaker
- ✦ Team Leader: Josh Dwanyen
- ✦ Defensive Player: Miles Conrad
- ✦ Most Improved: Musa Mohamed
- ✦ MVP: James Mator

Congratulations to all of our players for their hard work and dedication this season! Go Mustangs!



Wall of Dreams

Calling All Merrill Alumni!
Merrill Middle School is celebrating the incredible achievements of our former students by creating a special "Wall of Success." This project highlights the journeys of past students who have gone on to achieve great things. We will feature photos of these individuals during their time at Merrill alongside their accomplishments as successful adults, showcasing that with hard work and dedication, dreams truly can come true. Whether excelling in medicine, music, sports, business, politics, or any other field, we want to honor the diverse paths our alumni have taken.

If you know of a former Merrill student who has made their mark on the world, we'd love to hear from you! Please email Martin Luft at martin.luft@dmschools.org with their name, the years they attended Merrill, and a summary of their current achievements. While not all submissions will be included, we aim to feature a diverse range of alumni who inspire our students to dream big. Help us celebrate the rich history and bright future of the Merrill community!

You can dance
if you want to,

You can leave your
friends behind

cuz if your friends
don't dance

and if they don't
dance

then their no
frinds of mine.



Merrill Middle School Dance – February 28th!

We had a great time at the school dance this Spring! Our school dance was on Wednesday, February 28th, right after school from 3:30 to 4:30 PM. Admission was just \$3.00, which includes snacks and drinks for all students attending. It's was a great opportunity to have fun with friends, enjoy some music, and make great memories.

Parent volunteers were much appreatated, we loved your help! Whether it's supervising or handing out snacks, your support makes these events even better.

HOW DO I GET A YEARBOOK?

- USE THE QR CODE OR FOLLOW THIS LINK
- <https://www.yearbookordercenter.com/job/17688>

