

# **2021 EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING UPDATE**

# warriors D = yond

# A Message from the Superintendent

Mariemont City Schools is committed to enhancing student learning through diverse curricular options and enriching experiences that drive deeper understanding and skill development and support global competency.

This is why I am so proud of our award-winning Warriors BEyond program. This K-12 initiative allows students of Mariemont City Schools the opportunity for experiential learning beyond the traditional classroom setting and seeks to build passion and interest through hands-on experiences.

The Warriors BEyond program offers hundreds of different activities and experiences. We know that students' academic engagement and social and mental wellbeing improve when they discover interests and passions and feel a sense of belonging in the school setting. And Warriors BEyond does just that while at the same time preparing students for life after Mariemont, whether that be through post-secondary education, the workforce or military service.

This inaugural Warriors BEyond update is designed to share the benefits and successes of our experiential learning program. I am so proud of the partnerships we have forged with our community to offer these important experiences, and I would like to thank the Mariemont School Foundation and our local Kiwanis organization for providing support to make Warriors BEyond a reality. I look forward to continuing this important work that makes our district so unique and sharing it with you in the years to come!



Sincerely,

Steven E. Estepp

# WHAT ARE YOU BUILDING?

The core of the Warriors BEyond program begins at elementary school with Explorations, After School Enrichment and Camp Kern. It continues through junior high with Expeditions, Washington, D.C. and the Day of Service. The program caps off at the high school level with Intersession, Master Class and different travel opportunities.

Each program is purposefully structured in a way that builds upon a student's prior Warriors BEyond experiences. In the elementary programs, students are introduced to experiential learning and the fun that can come with new interests and skills. At the junior high, the programs are designed to explore and grow these interests and curiosities. And in high school, Warriors BEyond is focused on programming to build skills and knowledge for the future.

All Warriors BEyond programming falls into one of five categories: The Wellness Warriors, The Creators, The Futurists, The Global Learners and The Young Professionals. Students may learn early that they feel most passionate about one or two of these categories, while others may try Explorations, Expeditions or Intersession courses in a number of categories.

The heart of the Warriors BEyond program is igniting passion and excitement for learning and allowing students to discover the limitless possibilities that follow.



## **High School Programs**



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# **BY THE NUMBERS**



of students in the Mariemont City School District received Warriors BEyond experiential education programming during the 2020-2021 school year.



Mariemont High School students are creating their own rigorous curriculum in subjects not taught in traditional classrooms as part of the Master Class program.



How many courses are offered to students through each program?



Aariemont Elementary Explorations



Terrace Park Elementary Explorations



**53** Mariemont Junior High Expeditions



Mariemont High School Intersession\* 20 teacher-led courses 22 Experienceships 53 College Visits \*last offered in 2019

# Total number of student<br/>travelers in the summer of 2019:1166662282MJKS 8th Grade<br/>Washington,<br/>D.C. tripMKS Service<br/>Learning Trip to the<br/>Dominican RepublicMKS Intersession<br/>travel to New<br/>York CityMKS Global Student<br/>Leadership Summit<br/>to Switzerland

# What are they saying?

"Explorations helped me realize my passions, because I never realized how going to my Explorations and doing crafts could make me calmer in the school day. I did not realize that I had a big passion for art." - Annabell Lyons, 6th grade

"I'm in the Marketing, **Media and Communications** scholars program at Ohio State and the program instructor asked me about my background and why I chose this program. After I got done telling him all about the Warriors Broadcast Network he said that having that experience automatically puts me way ahead of the standard, and that he would feel comfortable having me work with upperclassmen and paid professionals in the program to make videos. It really shows how the broadcasting program teaches a lot of extremely valuable skills and it is crazy how much it translated and prepared me for the next level." - Luke Laite, MHS Class of 2021

How does the Warriors BEyond program prepare you for the future?

"It gives me a brief introduction to what I could experience in the future." - Paxton Lesseuer, 7th grade

"Students who can face new challenges, fresh problems or blank canvases, and develop their own creative solutions will succeed in their futures. Expeditions and Explorations provide chances for risk taking and innovation, without the parameters of grades." - Shelley Komrska, ME and MJHS art teacher

> "IT HELPS ME REALIZE THAT IF YOU DON'T TRY NEW THINGS THAT ARE OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE YOU'LL NEVER KNOW IF YOU LIKE THEM." - LUKE MACE, 5TH GRADE

"It opens doors to more individualized learning endeavors that both allow students to explore personal interests more deeply and also exposes them to different fields of study, activities and opportunities. These unique learning experiences in Warriors BEyond have a lifelong impact on students because they influence the choices students make about the daily activities in which they engage, their potential college studies and different career paths and possibilities." - Jeff Radloff, MHS science teacher

# warriors youd Student Spotlight



# Lucy Jacobs, 12<sup>th</sup> grade

What Warriors BEyond programs have you participated in through the years?

Multiple Expeditions at Mariemont Junior High School including acapella, dance machine, run towards fitness, cupcake decorating, and life skills.

Two years of Intersession - one year I visited colleges and the other year I did a teacher-led course where I participated in journaling, a college application panel and meditation.

Master Classes like broadcasting and video editing. Why do you think it is important to have the Warriors BEyond program in Mariemont City Schools? It is important for Mariemont students to have the opportunity to explore their interests and find passions that are outside of what is being offered in regular classes and is unique to them.

### What is a specific skill you've learned or interest you have gained from participating in the Warriors BEyond program?

My junior year I learned how to edit videos and have been experimenting with that ever since. I love creating videos of me and my friends in my free time and have utilized this skill within school projects.

# What have you learned about yourself from the Warriors BEyond program?

Due to the Warriors BEyond program I have learned what type of learner I am. This program allows you to have a lot of freedom so you get to figure out the best way for you to learn. For me personally I figured out I need structure and plans to reach my goals.

### How does the Warriors BEyond program set you up for success after high school?

In college I will have the same freedom within my classes as I did during Master Class and I will be better equipped for managing my time when it comes to homework and classes.

### What is one thing you would tell someone from a different school district about the Warriors BEyond program?

I would tell someone from a different school district how much fun the Warriors BEyond program is. Between Expeditions, Intersession, Master Class and all the traveling opportunities you are bound to enjoy something and learn a lot about who you are and what you want your future to look like.



To learn more about the Warriors BEyond initiative, along with its specific programming and a calendar of events, scan the QR code or visit the Warriors BEyond page of the district website.



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