



From the President

Dear Friends of Mercy,

It gives me great pleasure to introduce to you our Mercy Tech Newsletter! Since 1950, we've been a school of many names including: Mercy Technical Institute, Mercy Technical School, Mercy Vocational High School and today, Mercy Career & Technical High School. Now, we proudly use our original nickname: Mercy Tech, best representing who we are and what we do.



The Sisters of Mercy, founded by Catherine McAuley, established our school in 1950. Despite portraits of her likeness in all Mercy schools and hospitals throughout the world, there does not exist an actual picture of Catherine McAuley. Nonetheless, that Mercy spirit and the service of the poor, sick and uneducated continues.

Vocational education and employment opportunities for young people in the Ireland of Catherine's day were priorities. Today, in the City of Philadelphia, Mercy Tech remains the only vocational high school open, despite the challenges of this pandemic. Creative teachers, dedicated staff, and excellent technology make all of this possible. To quote a Sister of Mercy, "We have to make decisions Catherine never faced, but for which she has empowered us."

Who is the face of Mercy today? You will meet many of these administrators', teachers' and students' "faces" throughout this newsletter. Mercy Tech's mission is a unique one, at a time the country and world beyond need highly competent, compassionate contributing members of the global community more!

God bless you all!
Sister Rosemary Herron, RSM
President

Advancement



Culinary & Pastry Arts student, Kayla Brown, C' 21, uses a new commercial dishwasher fully funded with a generous grant from The McLean Contributionship.

COVID-19 Update

To date, because of the safety protocols that have been put in place at Mercy Tech, there have been zero incidents where cases have been transmitted within school. While, nationally, cases are on the rise, Mercy Tech has been safe. To continue this, we will not let down our guard nor deviate from safety protocols such as proper and consistent mask wearing, social distancing, room ventilation, and specific lunch instruction.

We will continue to communicate regularly with you regarding COVID-19. This update is emailed every Sunday evening.

Q1 Outstanding Students

Congratulations to the following students for all their hard work and dedication this quarter. #mercyproud.

Freshmen

Taylor Houseman, Gideon Garcia, Issac Ramirez, and Kylee Humm

Sophomores

Zaniya Norman, Madison Johnson, Makayla Allen, and Marquis Banks

Juniors

Carlita Johnson, Asia Reynolds, Faith Figueroa, and Josiah Curtis

Seniors

Ryiese Randolph, Jady Carrasquillo-Martinez, Ed Bombily, and Amir Bradley

Mercy votes

We are so proud of Mercy students who made the very important decision to exercise their right to vote in the Presidential Election: Ed, Sergio, Rayonna, Taj, Kyra, and Samiyah



Admissions

The Office of Admissions at Mercy Tech wants to thank our faculty, staff, administration, students and their families for their assistance in the 2020-21 recruitment season. We had record breaking numbers in applications, met our recruitment goal and had to begin a wait-list! On September 30th, 2020, Sr. Rosemary hosted our first Admissions Season Launch Party, virtually. Calling on 8th and 9th grade families to explore the option of a Mercy Tech experience and apply. Our next event will be Mercy Tech's Virtual Spring Open House on April 14th, 2020 at 6:30PM. Also new this year is the *Mercy Referral Discount*, a program giving current Mercy families (9th, 10th and 11th grade families) a \$250 discount off their tuition if they refer a student that registers and enrolls. For more information please visit mercycte.org/admission.

“Great sense of faith and community! A variety of shops to choose from!”

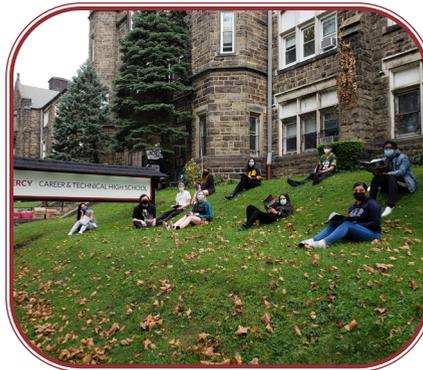


Alumni

The C'20 Returns for their Yearbooks

On October 7, complying with pandemic conditions, the Class of '20 returned to pick up their yearbooks, a thumb drive with their graduation ceremony, and their trophies and awards. Special thanks to Mrs. Tees and her yearbook staff, and Mr. Carchidi for the thumb drives. Thanks for the memories!

If you missed the yearbook pick-up, contact Mr. Steve Wasserleben in the Advancement Office by calling 215.226.1226 ext. 137 or swasserleben@mercycte.org to arrange for a pickup day and time.



Alumni Basketball Games Postponed

This time of year reminds many of us of the Alumni vs. Students basketball games that take place annually on the Monday before Thanksgiving. Unfortunately, pandemic conditions require this game to be postponed. We love to reconnect with you at this event and hope to reschedule for the spring.

Alumni: Help Us Recruit Students!

Encourage elementary students to look at Mercy Tech when they and their families are considering high schools. Tell them of your education at Mercy and your career success. They can visit our website at www.mercycte.org/admissions, call 215-226-1225 ext. 153 or email admissions@mercycte.org.

Have you joined the “Mercy Vocational/Tech Alumni” Facebook Page?

Read and post information on this Facebook page. During this month of Thanksgiving and remembrance, we are gathering positive news, as well as names of classmates, teachers, and administrators who are with God. Please comment on Sister Susan's October 26 post to add the names of the deceased and/or pieces of good news. She will collect them to remember them in prayer during November and beyond.



Have you met?

Ms. Campellone Theology Instructor

What is your favorite part of teaching?

“My favorite part of teaching is seeing how creative students can be when given the opportunity and I love giving them the opportunity! I love seeing students grow in so many ways over the year, especially in self-confidence. I also enjoy creating a peaceful, calming environment for my students. I want them to feel safe and at ease when they are in my room. To know someone truly wants the best for them and cares about them can mean the world to that student.”

What three items would you take with you on a deserted island?

“First of all, I have to say that I cannot even imagine myself on a desert island! I have been obsessing about this answer! How would I have put myself in a position to be on a desert island? I am such a homebody! What happened? Where was I going? So, I put all that aside and came up with: a first aid kit (with a knife), an art kit (for sketching, painting), and a portrait of my family.”

Who was your favorite high school teacher?

“My favorite high school teacher was Sr. Mildred. She taught World History and you could tell she loved it and she loved us. Sr. Mildred had us create the most unique projects and encouraged us to use our skills and talents. She gave us the freedom to use our imagination and creativity. Sr. Mildred is now (and has been for many years) the Principal at Our Lady of Calvary.”

Tech Team



Mercy’s Tech Team is the go-to authority on all tech issues at Mercy. Comprised of full-time faculty, specializing in academic and CTE programs, they brought us to a seamlessly functioning online learning model at the end SY 2020 and pivoted to hybrid learning this Fall. The tech team is invested in the technology that enables our school to run and our students to succeed. Incoming Freshmen were supplied Chrome books well before the start of school this year, and arrived on day one fully tech-ready.

Mercy Ministry

Although the 2020 Presidential Election is now behind us, the painful divisions in our nation are not. We urge everyone who calls the United States home to commit to bridging the deep divisions within the country, and we ask for the prayers of our sisters and brothers around the world.

Mission Statement

Mercy Career & Technical High School is a private, urban career and technical high school sponsored by The Sisters of Mercy. Within a 21st century learning environment, we provide a Catholic education and a comprehensive, academic, career and technical school experience which prepares students for the workforce and/or post-secondary education. In the Mercy tradition, we live the Gospel in word and action and promote service to others. The Mercy Career & Technical High School graduate is a highly-competent, compassionate, contributing member of the global community.

What Mercy means to me



“A Mercy student, to me, is someone who is willing to get up every morning and share their passion with the world. Being in a career & technical school, we are asked to express ourselves in our own way and we do this mainly through the shops we choose. Any projects we receive, we put our own creative touches/details onto it. I am proud to be a Mercy student.”

- Sergio Sotomayor (C' 21)

SHOP SPOTLIGHT



Computer Tech

In our Computer Tech program, Mr. Carchidi's class is building custom PCs. Starting in sophomore year, continuing in junior year and ending in senior year, the custom PC project is a staple of the program.

This class sources components, compares & contrasts parts, creates budgets and purchase orders, and inventories parts when they arrive. Finally, they install the parts while recording their progress with a camera. It all happens under the watchful eye of their teacher, who's built a few in his time. Building your own PC is a huge deal in the computer tech world!

Take a look at the hard work and hardware that go into this project.

Advertising Art & Web Design



Culinary



Health Occupations



Building Trades



Cosmetology



Business



Jameson



Meet Jameson, Mercy's therapy dog. Therapy dogs have been credited for many classroom improvements, including reduction of stress and anxiety in students as well as improved attendance

Therapy Dog in Training