

Mooreville High School's TROOPER TIMES

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Sophomore Files commits to Mississippi State

By: Taylor Hussey

On June 18, 2020 sophomore Jud Files announced his commitment to play baseball at Mississippi State University.

Jud was playing baseball at Meridian Community College with his travel team East Coast Sox Baseball when his coach put him on the phone with MSU pitching coach Scott Foxhall. That day they briefly talked about his playing for MSU and over the next few weeks, Jud kept in touch with the staff. Two weeks later, Jud announced that he would be playing for Mississippi State University. "We were in shock after we got the call. We didn't fully understand or believe what had just happened," said Jud's mother, Morgan Files.

After taking the phone call, Jud was extremely excited to be joining the Mississippi State family. "I've always been a huge MSU fan!" Jud said. He explained that there is no doubt in his mind that he wants to play for Mississippi State.

Although Jud was recruited while playing for his travel

ball team, he has been a member of the Mooreville baseball program since 7th grade. MHS head coach Derek Thompson believes Files will fill the role as the #1 pitcher for Mooreville this year and hit at the top of the lineup. "He has an unbelievable athletic ability and what sets him apart from the rest is his work ethic.. good to see his work paying off," said Thompson.



From this point on, Jud will stay in contact with his future coaches and work as hard as he can before he gets to college. "I have to practice and workout to keep in shape and hold myself to the highest standard I can," he said. Jud mentioned that balancing his time between sports and academics will play a major role in his success.

Jud's family was just as excited about the news as he was. His mother, Morgan Files, knows he will have to prepare to pitch against fierce hitters. "He has to train as a pitcher to face the best hitters in the country," said Mrs. Files.

She also knows that there is a new pressure placed on him as a player. "There is an expectation for him to perform unlike before," said Mrs. Files.

Lindsey inducted into football hall of fame

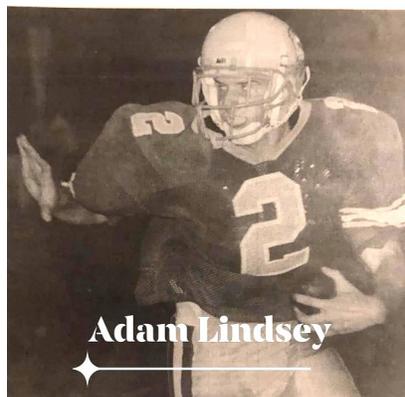
By: Austin Weems

Mooreville High School head principal Adam Lindsey was recently inducted into the Mantachie High School Football Hall of Fame. Mr. Lindsey played running back from 1995 to 1998 at Mantachie High School.

The date of the induction ceremony was set for Mantachie's homecoming game of 2020, which was also their first home game. Mr. Lindsey felt honored and humbled by the news that he was going to be inducted into the hall of fame.

Mr. Lindsey, along with fellow inductees Derek Jones, Archie Cates, Mike Hill, and the late Mike McCarver, were honored before the game around 6:30 pm.

He rushed for 2,740 yards his senior season, which is considered one of the best rushing totals for one season in Mississippi football history. His total places him in the all-time top 20 rushing. Lindsey had 30 total touchdowns that season as well.



Coach Derek Thompson went to high school with Mr. Lindsey and played quarterback on the same team. Both graduated in 1998. Coach Thompson remembers playing with Mr. Lindsey as fun.

"It was a run heavy offense. Mr. Lindsey had 30 to 35 touches a night. People knew what we were going to do and still couldn't stop it. The linemen did a great job even though everybody knew what was going to happen. Mr. Lindsey was an extremely hard worker, and he out worked everybody, too. He was only 165 pounds when he graduated," said Coach Thompson.

Mr. Lindsey's favorite memory from high school football is Mantachie beating Baldwin in double overtime. "Still the only time Mantachie has ever beaten Baldwin," Lindsey said.

Mr. Lindsey also beat his current employer, Mooreville High, all four years in high school. Mantachie beat Mooreville 55-7 his senior year. "But after we [class of 1998] left, they beat us," Coach Thompson said.

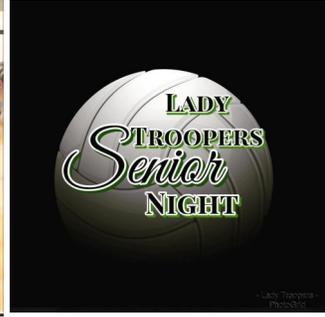


Lindsey inducted into Mantachie High School Hall of Fame



MHS principal Adam Lindsey (far left) is pictured here with the rest of the Mantachie Football Hall of Fame Class of 2020.

Volleyball Senior Night



Congrats to seniors Anna Grace Ward, Adison Biffle and Payton Gillentine on a great volleyball career at MHS.

Coach Cantrell joins science department

By: **Regan Hawkins**

Mooreville High School welcomed many new teachers this 2020-2021 school year. Our new science teacher and volleyball coach Abby Cantrell is excited about a new opportunity.

Cantrell is starting her first teaching job here at MHS. She is teaching Foundations of Biology this fall, and Earth Science in the spring. She did her student teaching internship at East Webster High School. In her past, she attended Hatley High School, Itawamba Community College, and Mississippi State University.

"I graduated from Hatley High School in 2015. I participated in slowpitch, fastpitch, basketball, and cheerleading while at Hatley. I completed my first two years of college at Itawamba Community College. I then transferred to Mississippi State University where I completed my Biology Secondary Education degree. After completing my bachelors degree, I stayed at Mississippi State for an extra year and completed my Masters degree in sport pedagogy. During this time, I was also able to work as a graduate assistant with the Mississippi State Athletic Department," she said.

Surprisingly, Coach Cantrell has never coached volleyball. "I was actually not even introduced to the sport until about March of 2020. Although we are still a new team to the sport, we have improved greatly this summer. "

As she was learning the sport, she brought in some experts to help the girls improve. We were able to bring in Keith Haney, who runs a club volleyball gym in Tupelo, and we

were also able to bring in Priscilla Morgan, who is the head volleyball coach at ICC. I think these two experiences benefitted us greatly as a team. I have a great group of girls who are willing to work hard and have a desire to be successful," she said.

Although Cantrell is new to the sport, she has grown to enjoy it. "I enjoy the competitive nature of all sports, and I think kids can learn skills that will benefit them throughout the rest of their lives. I hope that my girls know that I am fully invested in them as people and as players. I want them to be the best athletes that they can be and also the best people that they can be."

Now that the volleyball season has ended, Coach Cantrell is looking good for the future. "My plan is to keep challenging our girls to work hard and not settle for being "good enough." I want our program to become one of the most competitive in Northeast Mississippi," she said

The teaching staff has worked hard to welcome Abby Cantrell into MHS, including the science department. Science teacher Leigh Ray is enjoying working with her. "She fits in as if she has always been here. First of all, she

is very knowledgeable in her subject area and her classes are always organized and engaged. She has the best personality and works well with all her peers. We are lucky to have her!" she said.



Coach Abby Cantrell

Mississippi Writers course added at MHS

By: Emma McCollum

This year, Mooreville High School welcomed a new class called Mississippi Writers. The teacher, Amy Vanlandingham, teaches the class during fourth block in the L building.

The new class gives students the opportunity to read works by authors born and/or living in Mississippi. "We will read short stories, essays, and excerpts of larger works from authors such as William Faulkner, Eudora Welty, Greg Iles, Willie Morris, and others," she explained. "We will watch a number of films both based on the works of Mississippi authors and inspired by writings and lives of Mississippians. We will also analyze original music written by Mississippi artists."

Mooreville began offering Mississippi Writers this school year. The class created new opportunities for students to learn more about the people from Mississippi who "made it big." "The school is always looking to find new and interesting classes to offer its student body," explained Mrs. Vanlandingham.

There are 16 students enrolled in Mississippi Writers, with eight of the 16 students being distance learners. The

class is an English elective but cannot be taken in place of a regular English class. As of right now, there are no requirements to get into the class.

Mooreville junior Marley Hutcherson is enrolled in Mississippi Writers this year and is delighted to be introduced to the "famous" people from Mississippi and how their fame started. "I'm excited to get to learn more about our writers from Mississippi," she explained.

Mooreville High School sophomore Nan Pittman is glad to be in the class since she is an avid reader, especially when it comes to Mississippi author John Grisham. "I love the class! It has introduced me to new authors from Mississippi and allowed me to learn more about them," she said.

Even though the class helps introduce authors from Mississippi, it seems as though the students are the icing on the cake. "I've really enjoyed the class so far. I enjoy the small class atmosphere and the students who are in the class," explained Mrs. Vanlandingham.

Pittman agreed and added, "The students are the best part of the class!"



Mrs. Vanlandingham discusses Mississippi novel choices with junior Marley Hutcherson.

Club strives to "make a difference" at MHS

By: Hayes Murphree

Mooreville's Make a Difference (MAD) Club, sponsored by Mrs. Janelle Keith, has been making a difference in the community since 2017.

The members of this club are trying to make a difference in the school and surrounding areas. "We are a volunteer club. The members of the club try to better the school and community through various activities," said Keith.

Covid has greatly affected the functioning of this club, much like everything else. "We have been completely shut down since March. We can still barely do anything at all. They want us to do as little face-to-face as possible," said Keith.

The club helps the community in a variety of ways. "I think the club is beneficial to the community because it allows us to help people in need. We are currently collecting food for those who do not have a sufficient amount," said sophomore John Riley Weeks.

The club was able to do a few things last year before the school was shut down due to the Coronavirus. "We bought plants and shrubs and planted them in front of the band

hall, provided snacks for students to eat after they finished their state test, and collected children's books to donate to those in need," said Janelle Keith.

So far this year, the club has held a food drive for a local food bank, collected bottled water for our sports teams, and currently, they are collecting bagged Halloween candy to be distributed to children who are unable to go out trick or treating this year.

The club has a big connection with the Modern Woodmen Company. They work together to help pay for some of the club's volunteer work. "Without them, we wouldn't be able to do many of the things we do! Also, if members have an insurance plan through Modern Woodmen and complete all of the requirements, they can receive scholarships and a cord when they graduate," said Keith.

The club has meetings at school on Thursdays during club day. "We discuss ways to make an impact on the school and community and things/projects that the members want to do," said Janelle Keith.



Sophomore club members Max Ray, Kee-gan Figueroa, Lauren Cates and John Riley Weeks hold some of the food collected during their recent food drive.

MHS Band features new marching show

By: Timothy Le

Mooreville High School's band, like many other activities, has seen many changes this year due to the coronavirus.

These changes include, but are not limited to, all practices being moved after school and no band competitions to attend. Even with these limitations, the band has continued to practice marching and playing.

During the summer, the band held summer camp to prepare a new show and to help its newer members become accustomed with playing while marching. "This year's band camp was quite the success. It was humbling to see the amount of band students that we have show up in the midst of a crisis. They could have easily chosen to stay at home and not do band this year but instead they rallied," said Mr. Stallings, the assistant band director.

This year's show features four popular songs written by famous singer Bruno Mars. "The show this year will

feature hits by Bruno Mars such as "Locked out of Heaven," "Treasure," "It Will Rain," and "Uptown Funk." Our drum major and color guard uniforms will be incredible, and our show shirts will be the coolest yet. The band will sound incredible. Don't believe me? Just watch," said Mr. Stallings.

Senior saxophone player Jared Brownlee attended his sixth and final band camp this past summer. He admits that the days were long, hot and humid, but he was excited about learning the new show. "I like it a lot! It's different from the traditional marching show," said Brownlee.

While the band will not be participating in some away games, it will participate in all of the home games. "I'm still super excited that we will get to perform for the home games," said senior drum major Lindy Monts.

News has also come that there will be no marching season for the band this year. "There are no competitions this year because of the coronavirus. This is sad for us to hear, but was expected," said Brownlee.



Sophomore Micah Gray and senior Laken Hood perform during the band's new half-time show.



Trooper Band 2020



Annual career expo goes virtual

By: Haley Underwood

Every year, eighth grade students have had the opportunity to go to a career fair held at the BancorpSouth Center in October. While the career fair was being planned for the 2020-2021 school year, the age group invited to attend changed to tenth graders. However, because of the social distance requirement, the career fair will now be a virtual event.

Students in grades 8-12 now have the opportunity to learn more about different careers. "The virtual Career Expo will allow students in eighth through twelfth grade to learn about potential career pathways and dig deeper in their pathways of interest. Although our target population is tenth grade and these students will have the opportunity to win Apple products based on usage of the system, we look forward to this resource impacting more students and serving as a base for a joint in-person and virtual format" said Al-

bine Bennett, coordinator of Imagine the Possibilities Career Expo.

The virtual format of the Imagine the Possibilities Career Expo will be accessible via a website - www.itpcareerexpo.com - and Imagine the Possibilities



app that is accessible via Apple and Android products. Individuals interested in accessing all content will need to create a login that is the same for both avenues.

Once logged into the website or app, students are taken to a home screen where they can watch Khoula, Khamaal, and Kyion White share an overview of the interactive experience. Students can then access all information including a pathway overview video, pathway resources, "day in the life" videos, mentor for a minute clips, and a podcast. The virtual fair will be available online through March 2021. The Toyota Wellspring Education Fund has sponsored this event for several years. They have also provided career coaches to many high schools in the Pontotoc, Union, and Lee Counties.

Spanish Club opens to students in October

By: Mallory Green

Mooreville High School has had a Spanish Club for several years. Anybody can join Spanish club by just signing up. Our Spanish class teacher Mrs. Jennifer Gray has been over the club for



Club sponsor
Mrs. Jennifer
Gray

over twenty years.

Mrs. Gray explained that there are no requirements to be in Spanish Club. Speaking Spanish is encouraged but not required. Because of COVID, the club has yet to

start up the club for this year.

Even though Spanish Club has not been able to meet up this year, anybody can start signing up now. The cost will be \$3, and there will be a meeting in Oc-

tober to elect officers and vote on t-shirt designs. The exact date for the meeting will be announced soon.

Mrs. Gray takes her students to the elementary to help students practice other languages and to also help the members. "We try to promote connections between the Spanish speaking community and English speakers. Last year and several years in the past, we took volunteers to go to the elementary and work with ESL (English as a Second Language) learners to help them with their English," said Gray.

One of the things both the members and Mrs. Gray enjoy is going to Mexican restaurants and ordering in Spanish, and meeting new people. "My favorite thing to do in Spanish Club is eating with all the people and saying our order in Spanish," said junior member Emily Mar-



tin.



HOMECOMING WEEK 2020



MHS spirit shines for Homecoming Week

By: Eva Whitworth

Mooreville High School recently celebrated Homecoming Week. They celebrated by having themes for every day of the week that students and staff could participate in.

Monday was 'Merica Day. Tv Tuesday followed with the most participants of all five days. Wednesday was Color War, where every grade had a specific color to represent its class. Thursday was Jersey Day, and Friday was the day to show spirit with school colors.

TV Tuesday was the most popular day among the student body and Mooreville High School staff. Characters from Tiger King, The Office, Grey's Anatomy, and Clueless were just a few of the many represented in the hallways. "My favorite outfit was Joe Exotic, hands down. Don't get me wrong, the show "Tiger King" was an absolute train wreck but it was one you had to watch to see what craziness would happen next. What made it even better was my "supporting" cast. My daughter, Eva Kate, went as Carol Baskin on that day even though their theme

was Favorite Book Character. Then there were the real "Show Stoppers," Ms. Pennington as Carol Baskin and Mrs. Davis as a tiger. The MHS Sped staff showed up and showed out on Tuesday, no doubt!" said Chaney.



Coach Chaney, Ms. Pennington and Mrs. Davis took on TV Tuesday with a Tiger King theme.

Homecoming week is about showing school spirit. Freshman cheerleader Rylie Williams dressed up every day of the week. Her favorite was the JoJo Siwa outfit she wore on TV Tuesday, complete with sequins and a bow. "I thoroughly enjoy supporting my school, and having as much school spirit as possible." stated Williams.

The teachers also showed the importance of school spirit throughout Homecoming Week. During the week, you may have seen Mrs. Ray with green hair, Mrs. Gray as Angela from The Office, Mrs. Lewis in a Chicago Bulls Jersey, and many more teachers showing their Trooper pride. "Homecoming week is supposed to be a fun-filled week centered on a shared school spirit from everyone involved. If we, as teachers, do not buy into the school spirit aspects, how can we expect the student body to do so?" said Chaney.

MHS offers new broadcast journalism class

By: Regan Hawkins

Because of recent issues with the coronavirus and schedule changes, Mooreville High School students have had the opportunity to take many new electives. One of those new electives is the Broadcast Journalism class taught by soccer coach Luke Mason.

Mooreville High School Principal Mr. Lindsey added the course. "I wanted our students to have more opportunities to be involved in our school. The more things we can offer our students to be involved with the more pride students will have in their education and school. I also want the public to see all of the great things that our high school has to offer," he stated.

In Broadcast Journalism, students will learn to create videos, edit videos, speak publicly, write scripts, and perform interviews. "We will more than likely use Affinity Photo for graphics editing and Final Cut Pro X for video editing," Mason stated.

The Broadcast Journalism class will also create a weekly news show, MHSN. "We will create our own YouTube channel, where an episode of "MHSN" will be posted every Friday. Also, every sports hype video can be found on there and Twitter," Mason stated.

The class is still waiting on the equipment, which should arrive in late October. Mason will work with the students and

show them how to operate the equipment once it arrives. "Students will be assigned certain games and given "media" passes as if they were with a company recording the game. Also, clips will be taken throughout the week of the various topics that will be covered in that week's episode," said Coach Mason.

Coach Mason is excited about this new addition to Mooreville High. "Previously, I taught this class for two years at Tupelo Middle School. I taught the basics of editing and interviewing there and we were able to post 1 episode every Friday, plus the occasional "special edition" episode. I think Broadcast will be an exciting class for the future here at MHS. It will take a couple of years to gather more equipment to make it more successful," he said.

Students have been able to work on a few things while waiting for the equipment to arrive. "We have learned how to properly interview others, how to speak publicly and carry ourselves on camera, how to write scripts, and what questions are con-

sidered thorough questions, rather than "yes or no" questions," junior sRiley Arnold said.



Sophomore Seairra Westmoreland works on a lesson for broadcast journalism class.

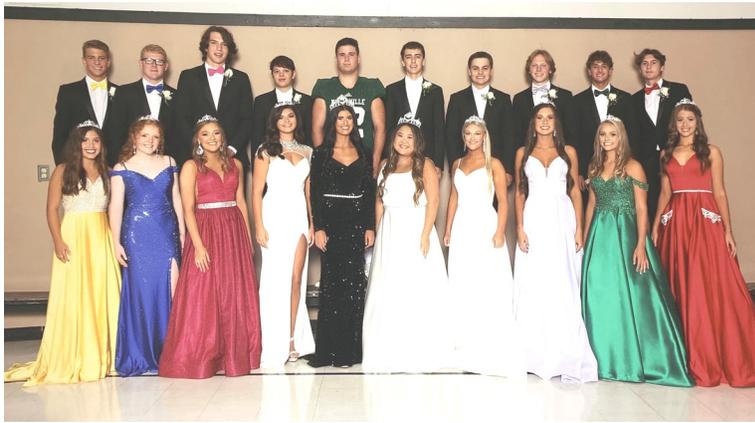
MHS homecoming court elected

By: Emma McCollum

On September 15, 2020, Mooreville High School students voted and elected their 2020-2021 Homecoming Court. Everyone at Mooreville can agree that this year's Homecoming was completely different than previous years, but current events didn't change our school spirit.

Student Council sponsor Patti Williams was in charge of homecoming this year. "We didn't know if we were going to be able to even hold homecoming festivities until two weeks prior to homecoming. The things I missed the most were all the decorations and getting to spend time with the student council. I pray this pandemic goes away and soon and everything will be back to normal," she explained.

The girls who were elected on the Homecoming Court were freshman maids Hannah Harmon and Makenzie Williamson, Meredith Hitt and Ava Willoughby as sophomore maids, Courtney Cox and Sage Cruse as junior maids, Jewel Johns and Sydney Lindsey as senior maids, Mary Morgan Lyle as football queen, and Carly Talbott as homecoming queen.



Senior maid Sydney Lindsey was very grateful to be voted on the court for her senior year. "Friday night was so much fun, but it was very different compared to the past homecoming games. I was so thankful to be part of homecoming and I was proud all of my friends were on it as well. It was a great last homecoming and I'm so thankful for the class of 2021 for a great night," she explained.

Junior maid Courtney Cox loved being on the homecoming court and looking onto the crowd from the field to see everyone congratulating her. "It felt awesome! My favorite memory was walking onto the field and seeing all of the flashes from everyone's cameras," she stated.

Homecoming Queen Carly Talbott was honored to be crowned Homecoming Queen her senior year. "I was in complete and utter shock. It was crazy to me that I was a senior maid, let alone the homecoming queen. I am unbelievably grateful for it, of course. When they announced it, I gasped and just froze. All of the other maids were stunning and it was an experience of a lifetime. I couldn't be more grateful," she said.

Lyle enjoys the pageant life

By: Kallie Smith

Mooreville High School senior Mary Morgan Lyle loves to participate in pageants. She has won over ten pageants, and been runner up in even more. Mary Morgan has participated in around 20 pageants.

Mary Morgan started pageants at a young age. "I was 5 years old! My first pageant was the Mooreville Elementary School pageant when I was in kindergarten. From what I remember, I continued to do the MES pageants and began to love participating in them," said Lyle.

Mary Morgan is currently Miss Teen Mississippi and she has also competed in the Miss Magnolia State pageant. "I've competed in a few state pageants, but the largest one would have to be Miss Magnolia State. There were so many girls, I can't even remember all of their names. I did manage to come out in the top 15 though," she stated.

She also has a great love for attending these events. "All pageants are so easy for me to enjoy because ever since I was little, I loved to play dress-up and do my makeup, so getting to do that with pageants satisfies the younger Mary Morgan in me. Pageants give you so much more than crowns and trophies. I always end up with new friends or closer to ones I already had when doing a pageant. They have also improved my poise,

confidence and social skills tremendously!" said Lyle.

Mary has many reasons she enjoys pageants. "I love all types of pageants [systems], but each in different ways. I love the school pageant because I get to have fun with my friends. I love state pageants because I get to meet new people. They all serve the same purpose though, so there's really no better system," says Lyle.

Mary Morgan's mother Tracy Lyle has supported her daughter through her pageant career. She believes the competitions have benefitted Mary Morgan. "She has learned how to feel comfortable on a stage in front of any size audience. Many of her pageants have an interview portion, so she has learned numerous skills from this. She has learned to listen to the questions asked of her and respond accordingly. She has learned to be a quick thinker, to be personable, funny, and charming without appearing fake and rehearsed," said Mrs. Lyle.

Mary Morgan has also learned the joy of serving those around her. "She has also benefited by doing the community service that most pageants require her to do. She has cooked meals for the sick and the elderly and served food in homeless shelters. These may seem like small tasks, but these acts of services have opened her eyes and allowed her to see how truly blessed she is," said Mrs. Lyle.



Mary Morgan Lyle is currently serving as Miss Teen Mississippi.

Talbott elected 2020 homecoming queen

By: Timothy Le

Senior Carly Talbott was elected by the Mooreville High School student body to be crowned as the 2020 homecoming queen.

Carly was escorted by senior Eason Murphree. Then, after having her name announced for homecoming queen, head principal Mr. Lindsey and vice principal Mr. Long crowned her and gave her a bouquet of roses.

At first, when her name was called as homecoming queen, Carly was shocked. "When they announced it, I gasped and just froze. All of the other maids were stunning and it was an experience of a lifetime. I couldn't be more grateful," she said.



Then, after overcoming the shock of the memorable event, she was extremely grateful for the opportunity to be crowned homecoming queen. "I would love to thank my MHS family. Not just the class of 2021, but the entire student body. They gave me this amazing opportunity and I owe it all to them," she said.

Carly's parents and her best friend junior Jordan Springer were some of her biggest supporters. "I would also like to thank my family for supporting me in everything that I do, but I would like to give a special thanks to Jordan Springer. She was my right hand man the week of homecoming. Without her, I would have gone out on the field in a t-shirt and shorts," said Carly.

Class prepares students for health careers

By: Haley Underwood

Lee County Schools has expanded its vocational class offerings to include Health Sciences, a program for students that want to go into the medical field.

This new course is a great opportunity for students to learn more about the medical field before going to college. "These classes prepare students for careers in the healthcare field such as, but not limited to - nursing, radiology, surgery, respiratory therapy, EMT,

paramedic, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy. We cover topics such as safety in the workplace, infection control, healthcare systems, educational requirements for careers in healthcare and the professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities involved," stated Health Sciences teacher Charla Creel.

Students learn many things when taking these classes. "In our classes we learn many different skills, such as, but not limited to - the correct way to put on and take off PPE (gowns, gloves, masks, etc.), proper handwashing technique, correct medical terminology, how to check a pulse, blood pressure, and respirations, how to handle true emergencies, and CPR/First Aid," said Creel.

There are many qualifications that are required to take these classes. "The qualifications for taking Health Science Core (year 1) are that you must be in grades 10 or

11, you must have passed biology 1 with at least an 80 or above, and maintained at least a 2.0 GPA. We also give priority to students who have already taken or are currently enrolled in A&P at the time of registration. As we prepare to move to our new Career and Technical Education Center, you may even see an application process for students wishing to enroll in Health Science Core. The qualifications for Health Care and Clinical Services (year 2) are listed on an application that students wishing to be

considered for year 2 will complete in the spring semester of year 1. A few things the panel takes into consideration for admission into the Health Care and Clinical Services is the student's Health Science Core grade, attendance, classroom behavior, and any discipline referrals. 12 students from year 1 will be accepted into year 2." said Creel.

Currently, Mooreville High School students who take health science classes must ride a bus to the Saltillo High School campus for the class, but next year, the class will be moved to the new Lee County Schools vocational center currently being built.

If students are looking into the medical field, these Health Science classes are for them. "I would 100% recommend this class to someone. My experience with this class has been nothing other than incredible! It's given me so much medical knowledge and what to do with patients in all situations," said senior Lindy Monts.

