



## HEADMASTER'S MESSAGE

Hello Iron Eagle Families, Happy Friday!

On Monday morning, I watched our Iron Eagles walk onto campus for the first day of the 2026–2027 school year many of them brand new to MIT (Maricopa Institute of Technology). By midweek, those same students were moving — .between classes, finding the cafeteria, and following our campus procedures as if they had been here for a year

Students, thank you. You learned our expectations quickly, you asked good questions, and you carried yourselves with respect all week. That is exactly how a strong year begins.

Families and guardians, thank you for the trust you have placed in MIT. You are trusting us with far more than coursework — you are trusting us with your student's academic growth and their growth as a young person. We do not take that lightly.

One request: this newsletter will be published at the end of every week for the entire school year. Please make reading it a weekly habit. It is where you will find testing dates, athletics schedules, program updates, and anything that needs a response from you.

Next week we host our Fall Sports Parent Meeting and begin preparing for Benchmark Testing. Have a wonderful weekend, Iron Eagles!

**Mr. Gandhi**

Headmaster, Maricopa Institute of Technology





# Our First Week in Pictures

July 27 – July 31, 2026

A new building, new schedules, new faces — and by Friday it already felt like home. Here is a look at what week one looked like across the MIT campus.



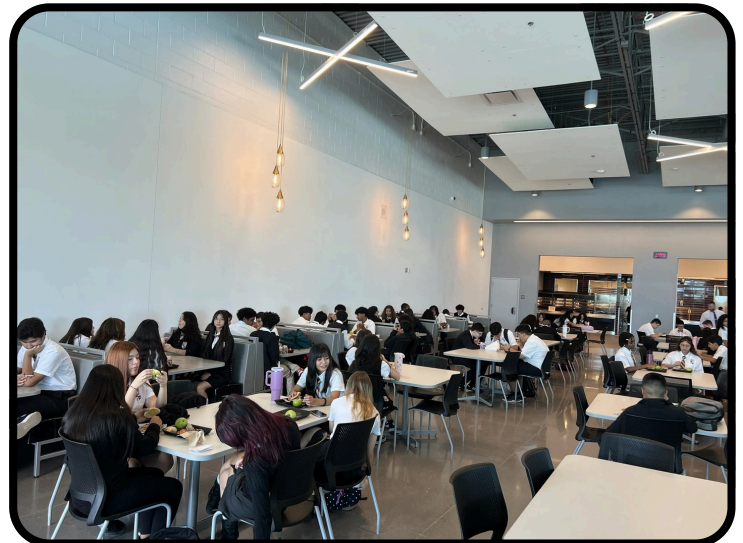
*Students move between buildings during a passing period.*



*Iron Eagles gather in the gym.*



*Lunch in the new Bistro.*



*Students catch up with friends over lunch.*

# Fall Sports Have Officially Begun!

*From Mr. Gilmer, Athletic Director*

Our fall season is underway, and Iron Eagles are already on the field, the court, and the track. Over 100 fall sports flyers went home during Meet the Teacher Night, and turnout at tryouts has been strong. Here is what your student can expect in the weeks ahead.

|                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Football</b>      | Practice Monday through Friday, <b>6:30–8:30 p.m.</b> Coaches are following proper heat acclimation procedures, using helmets only for now and adding pads within the next few days. First game (scrimmage): <b>Friday, August 21</b> , vs. Imagine Prep – Surprise. |
| <b>Boys Soccer</b>   | A great turnout at tryouts. Practice begins <b>Monday, August 3</b> , 5:30–7:30 a.m. First game: <b>Friday, August 28</b> , vs. Harvest Prep – Yuma.                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Volleyball</b>    | One final tryout day on <b>Monday, August 3</b> . Practice begins <b>Tuesday, August 4</b> , 4:00–6:00 p.m. in the field house. First game: <b>Tuesday, August 25</b> , vs. ASU Prep.                                                                                |
| <b>Cheer</b>         | Returning members begin practice <b>Monday, August 3</b> , in the dance studio. New member tryouts: <b>Wednesday, August 12, Thursday, August 13, and Friday, August 14</b> .                                                                                        |
| <b>Cross Country</b> | Tryouts <b>Monday, August 3</b> and <b>Tuesday, August 4</b> , 3:00–4:00 p.m. Practices begin <b>Thursday, August 6</b> at 6:30 a.m., held Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 6:30–7:30 a.m.                                                                      |

## Fall Sports Parent Meeting — Wednesday, August 5

Lecture Hall, Building A. **Start time will be confirmed and shared with you as soon as it is set.** This meeting is for **all** fall sports. Mr. Gilmer will go over expectations for athletes and for families and guardians, so that everyone starts the season on the same page. Please plan to attend with your student.





# Medical Assistant Program Opens Its First Week

*From Ms. Montiel, District Nurse & Health Supervisor*

This week, MIT welcomed its first group of students into the Medical Assistant Program, offered in partnership with APCC (Accelerated Pathways College and Career). This program is the “Medicine” in our STEM<sup>2</sup> model — Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine — and it gives students a real path toward a healthcare credential while they are still in high school.

## A Strong Start

Forty-seven students are currently enrolled. They have been divided into three separate cohorts so that every class stays under a 20-to-1 student-to-instructor ratio and students get the attention this kind of training requires.

During their first week, students met their instructor, reviewed classroom expectations, and began their first lectures, which focused on the administrative side of the healthcare setting.

## Support On Campus

Ms. Magno is our Medical Assistant instructor. A representative from APCC was on campus throughout the week to assist with classroom setup, supplies, and instructor training. Because this was the program’s inaugural week, Ms. Montiel attended all three cohort sessions in person to make sure everything ran smoothly for students, APCC staff, and MIT staff.

Going forward, Ms. Montiel will check in with each cohort once a week. She will also be on site during clinical laboratory instruction, when students begin learning hands-on clinical skills.

## What Families and Guardians Should Know

Student scrubs have not yet arrived. Delivery is expected in approximately three weeks, and we will let you know as soon as they are in. No action is needed from you at this time.

Overall, the first week was a great success. We are proud of these students and excited to keep building this program.



# Forging Fledglings & Molting Iron: MIT's Artists & Writers

*From Mr. Morganstern — Scholastic Art & Writing Awards*

Students who write, draw, paint, photograph, design, or film now have a national stage. Mr. Morganstern is bringing the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards back to MIT, and any student in grades 7 through 12 may take part.

## The Goal

To produce and submit an original student-created work of art or writing to the national Scholastic Gold Key Awards competition by **December 1, 2026**. There are more than 30 categories to choose from — students and families can browse them at [artandwriting.org](https://artandwriting.org).

## Why It Matters

The Awards are presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, a nonprofit that identifies students with exceptional artistic and literary talent and presents their work to the world. Students compete for recognition, exhibition, publication, and scholarships.

Over the last seven years, students submitted more than 1,250,000 original works. In that same period, more than 60 arts institutes and colleges have made over \$60 million in scholarships and aid available to regional and national winners. National winners are invited to the awards ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York City over Memorial Day weekend.

Past participants include Andy Warhol, Sylvia Plath, Truman Capote, Joyce Carol Oates, Ken Burns, and Robert Redford. Award alumni also go on to lead in medicine, science, journalism, law, and government — a natural fit with our STEM<sup>2</sup> mission. MIT students have earned national recognition through this program before.

## Interested? See Mr. Morganstern

Any MIT teacher can serve as a student's mentor and receive recognition alongside them. Mr. Morganstern is happy to answer questions and help students get started.

## A note for families and guardians:

**In keeping with the tradition of the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, students are encouraged to express themselves freely, without fear of censorship. Some student works may therefore contain subject matter that is not appropriate for every audience. The content of any student work does not represent the views of MIT or its staff; the school serves as a vehicle for our young artists and writers.**

# Uniform Information

*Please review with your student before Monday*

At MIT, we require our students to wear uniforms. All students are required to have:

- a solid white button-up shirt with the MIT coat of arms and a tie/bow tie.
- Purple polos with the MIT coat of arms are only permitted on Fridays.
- Pants must be either black or khaki. No jeans!
- Students may only wear jackets or sweaters with the MIT coat of arms.

If you have any questions, please review our dress code policy in our student handbook found on our website.

## UNIFORM VENDOR

You may purchase your student's uniform over the phone at  
**Rapido AZ (602) 689-9592**  
or visit 3334 W Wilshire Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85009, STE #42



*Iron Eagles in uniform during lunch — white button-up shirts with the MIT coat of arms and ties.*



# More Sections Starting Next Week

*Watch for these in future issues of the Iron Eagle Press*

The Iron Eagle Press will grow as the year gets going. These regular sections begin soon — look for them in upcoming Friday issues.

## Academics & Instruction

Classroom spotlights, department updates, Advanced Placement (AP) and dual-credit news, and what your student is learning in our STEM<sup>2</sup> courses.

## Clubs & Student Council (STUCO)

Club sign-ups, Student Council elections, spirit weeks, and student-led events across campus.

## Counseling & College/Career

Scholarship deadlines, college visits, testing information, and career pathway opportunities for our students.



# Family Action Items

Everything on this page needs a response or a plan from you

1. **Attend the Fall Sports Parent Meeting** if your student is playing a fall sport — Wednesday, August 5, Lecture Hall, Building A. Start time to follow. *Deadline: August 5.*
2. **Adjust your Wednesday pickup plan** for early dismissal, starting August 5. *Deadline: August 5.*
3. **Check your student's uniform** against the requirements on page 6 and order from Rapido AZ if anything is missing. *Deadline: as soon as possible.*
4. **Plan for Benchmark Testing, August 10–13** — on time, rested, device charged. *Deadline: August 10.*
5. **Be present on Friday, August 7** for the state 10th-day attendance count. *Deadline: August 7.*
6. **Talk with your student about the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards** if they write or make art. Submissions are due December 1, 2026 — see Mr. Morganstern. *Deadline: December 1.*
7. **Read this newsletter every Friday.** It will be published at the end of every week for the entire school year. *Ongoing.*



Have a great weekend, Iron Eagles. We will see you Monday.

