

Our Vision

It is the goal of everyone at Laurel Highlands Middle School to incorporate The Mustang Way into the daily lives of our students, faculty and staff. We believe that by doing so, our school will become an even more positive place to learn. We are hoping that by getting everyone in our school involved, The Mustang Way of living will extend out of our building and into the entire school community.



By working together, this vision can become a reality.



**Laurel Highlands
Middle School**

18-20 Hookton Avenue
Uniontown, PA 15401

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*The
Mustang
Way*

Laurel Highlands
Middle School



*“Building great character and
citizenship”*

A Little Background

The Mustang Way began as an innovative idea to create school and community awareness about building great character and citizenship.

The mustang was an instrumental animal that helped pioneer and lead the way to settle the West. We emulate our mascot because we are striving to be leaders in academics and behavior to make our school and community a better place. Our vision is to provide a safe, positive school culture conducive to higher academic achievement.

The Mustang Way is based on a book by author Michele Borba, Ed.D.. Dr. Borba is a former classroom teacher who is an internationally renowned consultant and educator. She has presented workshops to over half a million participants. According to Dr. Borba, there are seven essential virtues that teach kids to do the right thing.



The Seven Virtues

The seven essential virtues are important characteristics that any person who wants to live *The Mustang Way* should follow:

1. **Empathy** - Identifying with and feeling other people's concerns.
2. **Conscience** - Knowing the right and decent way to act and acting that way.
3. **Self-Control** - Regulating your thoughts and actions so that you stop any pressures from within or without and act the way you know and feel is right.
4. **Respect** - Showing you value others by treating them in a courteous and considerate way.
5. **Kindness** - Demonstrating concern about the welfare and feelings of others.
6. **Tolerance** - Respecting the dignity and rights of all persons, even those whose beliefs and behaviors differ from your own.
7. **Fairness** - Choosing to be open minded and to act in a just and fair way.



Rewards

As a reward for living The Mustang Way, anytime a student is observed by a teacher doing an act which incorporates one of the seven essential virtues, the observing teacher will fill out a form in the office. After the good behavior is reported, the student will receive a **Positive Postcard** in the mail. These postcards are for the student and parent to acknowledge the student's positive action in school. Not only is the Positive Postcard a normal postcard on one side, but on the other it is a sticker. Hopefully, the sticker and postcard can be a daily reminder to family and friends that the administration and faculty of Laurel Highlands Middle School are very proud of our students.



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