



# Merrol Hyde Magnet School

# HAWK TALK



Vol. 7 No. 1

128 Township Drive Hendersonville, TN 37075 615-264-6543 <http://mhm.sumnerschools.org>

September 1, 2009

## Principal's Pen

What a sensational start to the school year!

- Congratulations to Mrs. Brosche and to the newspaper staff for publishing the first issue of the *Talon*. Very impressive!
- Thanks to Student Council as we held pillar inductions Friday and plan for the best Greek Week yet September 14-18.
- Way to go Mrs. Gilliland for starting us off in the "Paideia way" with a school-wide seminar on August 26.
- Kudos to Mr. Molotiu and Mrs. McDuffee for coordinating our school-wide coached project slated for October 5 and 6.
- Much appreciation to Mrs. Thurman for hosting the college planning meeting.
- Applause for Mrs. Jenny Howard for scheduling our new middle school Fusion groups. The students are so excited!
- Congratulations to Coach Lewis and the middle school football team on their first win this year over Ezell Harding!
- Hat's off to our new 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers Amy Eatherly and Alyssa Smith for joining our elementary staff and filling big shoes.
- Fine job by Sharon Fleming for organizing the elementary benchmark testing. The teachers appreciate your hard work.
- Welcome to our 40 brand new kindergarten students. Let's encourage them as they show their independence by walking into school by themselves Monday morning! Mrs. Arwood and Mrs. Tracy are looking forward to seeing your smiling faces!
- Thanks to the parents who mulched the playground and organized the back-to-school consignment sale. Woo Hoo!
- Greetings to the rest of our new teachers: Sarah McCreery, Samantha Puff, Jenny Stroud, Beth Philemon, and Dawn Williamson. We're glad you're here!
- Thanks to all our parents, students and teachers for contributing to the smoothest start MHMS has ever seen!

- Sincerely, Mrs. Schreiner

## School Messenger System

Parents, if you have **NOT** received an email from the school messenger system, contact Sue Grizzell in the office.

## PTO News

The first PTO general membership meeting will be **September 8th** at 6:30 p.m. It will be a Spirit Night. All students are encouraged to come to a grade challenge. The grade with the most students in attendance will win a gift card for their teacher. After the meeting everyone is invited to join us for Coke floats in the cafeteria.

**Fall Fest** will be here before you know it! We are doing it very differently this year. We are returning to the carnival this year, but we are adding some new things as well. **Thursday, October 1st**, we will be hosting an Adults-Only auction at Bluegrass Country Club. **Saturday, October 31st**, will be our Carnival! It's going to be lots of fun!! Information coming soon.

**MHMS Science Olympiad** teams are off to a great start preparing for the high school competition in early 2010. Eighth graders can participate but cannot compete until 9th grade. Science Olympiad covers areas in life science, physical science, chemistry, electronics, structural design and scientific processes. Parents with knowledge or interest in these areas are invited to help facilitate the teams. Please contact Mrs. Lloyd or Mrs. Mitchell to volunteer or for more information. See our website at <http://sites.google.com/site/mhmsscienceolympiadclub/> for meeting times.

## 7th Annual IMBA Pecan Sale

What could be tastier than pecans, fresh off the trees? The sale starts September 10 and lasts for 5 weeks. Pecans will be delivered in time for your holiday baking, and you don't have to pay until you get the pecans in early November. They cost \$8.99/lb for halves and \$8.79/lb for pieces. All band members will be selling pecans, and each elementary classroom will also have ordering information. Prizes will be awarded to the top sellers, including the elementary classrooms that bring in the most orders.

**Governor's Schools** are great residential summer programs for your 10th or 11th grader to earn college credit at no cost. See <http://www.tn.gov/education/govschools> for program descriptions and the application. To apply, follow the steps on the website. Call Mrs. Thurman with questions.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents

Duke TIP information will be sent home soon. Be sure to read the deadline information. We have limited packets, so if a form is lost, you will need to register online. Please contact Mrs. Jenny Howard with questions.

Site for middle school football: <http://unitedfootballconference.yolasite.com/>

## Robotics Club Forming Now

Sixth through twelfth graders - Are you interested in engineering, public relations, journalism, web design, marketing, public speaking, programming? The Robotics Club, founded by MHMS junior Will Butterworth, participates in the annual Boosting Engineering, Science, and Technology (BEST) program. September 5 is the "High Octane" Kick-Off Day for the 6 week program, which ends with the actual robotics competition on October 17 at Lipscomb University. Clubs will be judged on the robot they build, their notebooks, speeches, team spirit, and more. Contact Mr. Marsh, Ms. Lloyd or Will Butterworth for more information.

## 9/11 Patriotic Band Concert

Join us on September 11 at 6:30 p.m. to honor firefighters, policemen, emergency medical personnel and all veterans with patriotic music and songs. A brief IMBA meeting will be held, followed by the music. Dennis Allen, Chaplain with the Hendersonville Fire Department, will read the 9/11 Proclamation, and colors will be presented by Boy Scouts.



## FBLA Trip to Holiday World and Splashin' Safari



**September 5** - The FBLA bus will leave from school for Santa Claus, Indiana at 8 a.m. and will return at 10 p.m. Students, bring money for food in the park, and for a traditional meal at Cracker Barrel. Feel the vibe!

**September 15 - Deadline for FBLA dues.** Be sure your \$15 is in on time. T-shirt included! Our goal this year is to have 125 members. Let's make it happen!

**Third Grade News** -3rd graders have been working hard and having fun! They are learning cursive writing and LOVE our new science books and experiment kits. They have been experimenting with the different states of matter, mixtures, solutions, evaporation, and conduction of heat.

### Excused Absences Explained

All absences are considered unexcused unless documentation is provided. Documentation means either a written note from the parent or from the doctor, dentist, court, funeral home, etc. It must be provided the day the student returns to school. A student is allowed 5 parent notes per semester. K-5 students should give notes to their classroom teacher; all other students turn in notes to the office.

### Middle School Newsletter

From the MHMS website, click on the Parents tab, then "Middle Years Working Together for School Success." Scroll down for links to the monthly issues.

### Uniform Belts Needed

Send us your used belts, please! We loan belts to students who forget to wear one. Also, please return any borrowed belts to the school office.

### Our Library Needs Your Help

Help offset the county budget cuts by donating used books, videos and DVDs to the library. Ms. Weedman takes them to McKay's Used Books for trade credit. She has already secured nearly \$300, which goes a long way when books usually cost well under \$10. **Please, no Readers Digest or ex-library books.** Most other hardbacks, paperbacks and children's books are accepted.

**Send in used sports equipment** to school - like tennis balls & racquets, workout DVDs, anything that you no longer use. Coach Curcio will put your gear to good use!

If any parents are having difficulty paying for uniform clothing, there is a fund at MHMS to assist parents with clothing needs and purchases. Contact Mrs. Schreiner directly and she will help you secure the financial aid you need in a confidential manner.

### Need Hot Cocoa to Sell



*"I would be most grateful for boxes of hot chocolate or the Keurig cups of coffee and hot chocolate to sell in the upstairs library. The kids really like the Swiss Miss "specialty" hot chocolates like French Vanilla and others. The sugarless kind would be a special treat for those who need that. I could also use 10-oz. cups with lids, napkins, marshmallows, coffee stirrers, or anything like that!" - Ms. Weedman, Librarian*

## Counselor's Corner

High School

Mrs. Thurman

- The PSAT test is Oct. 28, by special permission for Sumner County.

Middle School

Ms. Jenny Howard

- Sixth graders will have bi-weekly guidance. Topics include adjusting to middle school, friendship, study skills, careers, and conflict resolution. Check with your sixth grader and find out what's going on in guidance. One-on-one counseling is also available.

- **"Fusion"** has launched for students in grades 6-7-8. Fusion groups are small, and grade- and gender-specific. They meet with the same faculty or staff member 1 to 2 times a month on Tuesdays from 8:15 a.m. - 8:55 a.m. Fusion is designed to help students feel more connected to one another as well as teachers and staff.

- First Fusion meeting - on August 11, **sixth graders** learned about the changes and opportunities middle school brings. **Seventh graders** took an interest survey to discover more about each other. **Eighth graders** discussed the future and reaching their goals. Feedback has been extremely positive and everyone is looking forward to the next meeting.

Elementary

Ms. Jenny Howard

- We have been talking about how to treat one another. One lesson involves squeezing the toothpaste out of its tube then trying to put the paste back. The toothpaste represents unkind words. The tube represents our mouth, and just like the paste that can't be put back in the tube, once we speak an unkind word, we can't take it back. We need to be careful with our words because we can hurt others with them.

- Other topics we will cover this year include personal safety, study skills, careers, drug and alcohol prevention, and conflict resolution.

Fall Portraits and Sports Pictures will be taken on September 23.

