



# Hawk Talk

*Principal's Pen*

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe we're so close to the end of this year that we're winding down and looking to next year! Please mark your calendars for the next PTO meeting when we'll look at this past year in pictures and discuss topics for 2004-2005.

We plan to have the results of our dress code survey to you by the end of this month since many of you have asked for that information. We also request that the surveys that were passed out in the car rider lines on April 2nd be returned to the school office as soon as possible. Your responses will enable us to improve our school and services.

Thanks for all you've done this year. We have wonderful students, parents, and teachers at MHMS!

Sincerely,

Brad Schreiner.....

## April PTO Meeting—Tuesday, April 20

### Celebrate Our Success and Envision Our Future at MHMS

On Tuesday, April 20th, 6:00 p.m. come help us celebrate the first year of MHMS and plan for the years to come. We need your help to generate a collective vision for the future of MHMS through an open forum and exchange of ideas. Your input will guide development of a school vision, mission statement, and guiding principles. After a brief PTO business meeting, Ms. Schreiner will reflect on our first year together with a presentation of "The Year In Pictures" and give her vision of the future at MHMS.

Following the presentation, we have four fun and interesting forum groups planned. Each forum will focus on a specific key topic that will contribute to building a full picture of the MHMS experience. Forum topics include:

- **Academic Excellence** – Create an environment where students and teachers share a desire to discover together and a passion for learning that will ensure academic excellence at MHMS.
- **Building A Culture of Respect and Openness** – Build an atmosphere that promotes mutual respect, establishes common expectations, and values unique individuals and ideas.
- **Fostering a Healthy Lifestyle Through Physical Fitness** – Provide a wide-range of quality opportunities to participate in individual and team sports for developing physically as well as mentally, fostering sportsmanship and ethical conduct, and promoting physical fitness as a life-long priority.
- **Broadening Horizons Through Extracurricular Activities** – Provide a diverse array of programs that nurture mind, body and spirit and allow groups of students to cooperatively explore special interests in-depth.

Please notify Penney Gilliland at [gillilap@k12tn.net](mailto:gillilap@k12tn.net) that you will participate in an open forum for adults and indicate your topic choice.

## Teacher Appreciation Week

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 2 through May 9. The theme for this year is "Planting Seeds of Knowledge." We would appreciate any donations having to do with "Gardening," to help with decorations, door prizes, etc. Anyone wanting to help or participate can contact Kym Sims, 822-7828 or by email at [sksims@comcast.net](mailto:sksims@comcast.net).



## Night of Stars... A Night to Remember

The Night of Stars was a magical evening. The Host and Hostess Club warmly greeted and escorted guests to their tables where the Culinary Club professionally served a wonderful dinner. The guests were serenaded by exceptional violin and piano players and the variety show proved to be simply spectacular. The film club snapped pictures to commemorate the fabulous evening. There is no question - MHMS students are talented individuals!

A HUGE thank you to all of you who helped make the Night of Stars the success that it was. This includes all of the parents who gave their time, energy and financial support - we couldn't have done it without you. Thank you so much!

*Lisa Hartman and Kim Tatum, Fundraising Chairpersons.*

## Latin Awards

Ten MHMS 9<sup>th</sup> graders have been recognized for high achievement in the prestigious National Latin Exam, a competition held across the nation and in eight foreign countries.

Tabitha DeMarco and Grant Leonardi earned gold medals for the highest marks of Summa Cum Laude. Winning silver medals for Maxima Cum Laude marks are Sarah Drayton, Alaina Kiskaddon, Tyler Brinkman, and Barrett Schreiner, while Taylor Leath, Jordan Smythe, Rquel Pointer, and Nathan Shults were awarded Magna Cum Laude certificates. The Latin teacher is Charles Cave.



## Youth in Legislature Convention

The MHMS Youth Legislature Delegates represented their school very well at the High School Youth in Legislature state-wide convention held March 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> in downtown Nashville. Congratulations are in order to all who attended: Amber Diviney, Shannon Hargis, Julianne Poe, Brendan Tramel, Grant Leonardi, Monica Diep, Jeong Hee Hong, Ashley Roddy, Jillian Miller, Lynnette McQuiddy, Raquel Pointer, Trey Brooks, Faustin Beck, Taylor Leath, and B. J. Lewis.

Special recognition went to Amber Diviney and Monica Diep who were recognized and awarded plaques for "BEST LEGAL BRIEF" in the Tennessee Supreme Court. Other legal teams were Jeong Hee Hong, and Trey Brooks, and Shannon Hargis and Julianne Poe.

Each 9<sup>th</sup> Grade student was a wonderful representative of Merrol Hyde Magnet School at the 2004 convention. Several are already talking about how they are going to refine the process and get their bills passed next year or take their legal cases all the way to the top.



## Just Say No Awards



The Just Say No Club ended its first year with great success. We were awarded two first place trophies at the Just Say No Battle at Hunter Middle School. Congratulations to Christie Thiessen for receiving first place in Public Service Announcements and to Megan Clark for her first place finish in Public Speaking. All of the students who participated did a wonderful job representing our school.



## Great News from the Instrumental Department!

On Saturday, April 3, eleven students from the MHMS Instrumental Music Program participated in the Gallatin Solo and Ensemble Festival. They were: Kamen Sims, Anastasia Gnyp, Jessica Hall and Melanie Freeman from the sixth grade. From the seventh grade were: Stevi Clark, Jan Claussen, Kate Claussen, In Hee Hong and Clark Sanford. Valerie Fraser participated from eighth grade. In ninth grade there was one, Jeong Hee Hong. Every student who attended the Festival achieved the highest score possible, a rating of "superior" (or a 1). Results like these are unprecedented! Congratulations to all of you who signed up, worked hard to prepare, and gave your Saturday to do a spectacular job for yourself and for MHMS. Thank you, too, for the parents who supported this effort by getting their children to the event. It was definitely time well spent. **The Spring Concert will be held May 18 at 6:30 pm in the auditorium.** We hope to see you there!

## T-Shirt Contest

The Student Council sponsored a contest last month to create class t-shirts for each grade. Winners were displayed before Spring Break in the commons area. The following student designs won: Alex Isaacson for the sixth grade, Collier Gailmard for the seventh, eighth grade student council members designed the eighth grade, and Barrett Schreiner for the ninth grade. The fifth grade students will also have a t-shirt. Students will be able to purchase shirts at break and before school in the commons area. All shirts will be \$10.00 each.

## MHMS STUDENTS GET ALONG SWIMMINGLY!



Allison Isaacson (7<sup>th</sup>) and Taylor Miley (8<sup>th</sup>) recently competed in the Southeastern Swimming Short Course Championships in Nashville, TN. Over 800 swimmers competed in the 4 day event.

Isaacson swam to 5 top eight finishes including two individual 1st place finishes in both Backstroke events and two 1st place finishes in both relays. She swam National Age Group Top 16 Reportable Times (fast enough to be considered one of the nation's leading 16 times for that age group) in the 50 yd Backstroke, 200 yd Free Relay, and 200 yd Medley Relay. Her Medley Relay was just .2 of a second off of breaking a 21 year old Southeastern Swimming Record.

Miley had 7 top eight performances including a 2nd place finish in the 1650 yd Free, 3rd place finish in the 1,000 yd Free, and two 1st place finishes in both the 400 yd Free Relay and the 400 yd Medley Relay. Both relays swam under the Top 16 Reportable Times.



## Relay for Life

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade honor society has formed a team for the Hendersonville Relay for Life on May 7. Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society's nationwide fundraiser dedicated to finding a cure for cancer. This year's theme is Board Games and the team has selected "Candyland—There's nothing sweeter than beating cancer". You can help raise money by buying suns (honoring survivors) and Moons (remembering lost ones) for \$1 each in the cafeteria. We hope the wall is covered in them. The grade with the most will get a special reward. Everybody should plan to attend and have fun at the Relay at Hendersonville High School on May 7 at 7pm.

## DRAMA NEWS



### \*ATTENTION GIRLS\*

Coach Coley is having a girls basketball camp this summer. It is open for girls in grades 1-8.

**WHEN:** JULY 19-22

**WHERE:** MHMS GYM

**TIME:** 9 AM – 1 PM

**COST:** \$50.00



- Instruction and competition
- Campers will receive t-shirts and prizes.

COME ENJOY THE FUN AND GET READY FOR THE 2004-2005 BASKETBALL SEASON.

Contact the school or Coach Coley for an application.

The Freshmen One Act play will be performed on May 13th at 7:00 and also at the May 14th Fridays-on-Stage. It is titled "This Is A Test" by playwright Stephen Gregg. Admission will be \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for students to see the play at Fridays-on-Stage. The cost will cover royalty fees, scripts, and stage properties.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social

What: Dance

Date: Friday, April 23

When: 7-10 p.m.

Cost: \$5

Where: MHMS cafeteria

Tickets will be sold at the door. We will serve light snacks and some type of drink. I am asking the students to bring "appropriate" music. We will have a DJ (Alan Clark).

## CELEBRATE TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK, MAY 3 - 7

### SHOWER OUR TEACHERS WITH GIFT CARDS!!!

There's no doubt that our wonderful teachers have played a HUGE part in making this a phenomenal first year at Merrol Hyde Magnet School. Our chance to show them how very much we appreciate them is coming up the week of May 3 – 7. Why not order a Scrip gift card to give to your child's teacher? Who wouldn't love a meal out at O'Charley's, Ruby Tuesday's, Olive Garden, Cracker Barrel or Outback? Maybe your teacher would love a gift card to Bath and Body Works or to a department store like Belk, Dillard's, Marshall's or T.J. Maxx. With the high price of gasoline right now, he or she might appreciate a gift card to Shell or Exxon! Check out our extensive list of retailers to see if one is right for your child's teacher. Place orders on Monday morning and get the gift cards back on Wednesday afternoon. Questions? Contact Susie Sanford at [sanfor@scomcast.net](mailto:sanfor@scomcast.net) or 452-9888.

## Athletic Banquet

MHMS will honor our athletes at our first athletic banquet to be held on Thursday, May 20. Students who have participated on athletic teams this year will be bringing invitations home for parents soon.

### Lands End Shopping

Remember to use the MHMS Preferred School Number (9000-8991-3) when ordering from Land's End. If ordering monogrammed items, the school logo number is 0346176K.

## April



20—PTO Meeting

19-23—9th Grade Trip

23—6th Grade Dance

26-29—5th Grade Trips

26-30—8th Grade Trip

29—NEW Parents Meeting

## May



3-7—Teacher Appreciation Week

4—Gateway Algebra 1 Exam

7—Relay for Life

11—PTO Meeting

13—One Act Play (7p.m.)

18—Band Concert

25-26—EXAMS

27—No School

28—Report Cards-Abbreviated

Day

The deadline for the May Hawk Talk is May 3. Information should be sent to Lyn Thiessen at [bltct@comcast.net](mailto:bltct@comcast.net).

# Celebrating A Successful Year

The MHMS PTO is much more than a fundraising organization. Our mission statement consists of three areas of focus: building the MHMS community, providing a forum for gathering ideas to enrich our students' educational experience, and enhancing the classroom experience. Here is a list of some of this year's achievements made possible through your generous support and the hard work of many volunteers.

## **Build a strong sense of community for students, faculty, and families at MHMS**

- ◇ Student socials throughout the year
- ◇ MHMS Family Directory
- ◇ Monthly Hawk Talk Newsletters
- ◇ Family work days on campus
- ◇ Community Open House Reception
- ◇ Spaghetti Dinner, Night of Stars, and Book Fair for the whole family
- ◇ Special events for faculty at monthly staff meetings, Book Fair, Teacher Appreciation Week, and during Christmas and Valentines Day

## **Provide opportunities to express and exchange ideas that will enrich our students' education**

- ◇ PTO meeting programs to showcase student and teacher talents and educate on topics like effectively communicating with our children
- ◇ PTO webpage and e-mail to communicate and to obtain feedback from parents
- ◇ Technology survey
- ◇ Community-wide Socratic Seminar
- ◇ Open Forum to develop a collective school vision

## **Identify and secure classroom and school resource needs**

- ◇ Student competition fees and awards
- ◇ Supporting student socials
- ◇ Teacher workshop fees—Art, Technology, Literature
- ◇ Classroom resource equipment and supplies
- ◇ Photocopier lease and supplies
- ◇ Classroom Whiteboards
- ◇ Maintenance and cleaning supplies
- ◇ Laptop and desktop computers to support student project work
- ◇ Landscaping
- ◇ Auditorium renovation: stage curtains, flags, acoustic wall

This year has been a great success and we have built a strong foundation for years to come. Please extend a special thanks to the PTO Officers, Committee Chairs and their committee members who have worked tirelessly to make all this happen during our first year at MHMS.

## **Fifth Grade News**

In February, both fifth grade classes visited the Tennessee State Capitol, the Tennessee State Museum and Centennial Mall. At the capitol, the students enjoyed serving as pages in the House of Representatives and the Senate. They were the guests of Senator Jo Ann Graves and Representative Diane Black. They all were presented with certificates and took tours of the historic capitol building.

In March, Mrs. Sanders' class presented an excerpt from Romeo and Juliet for the PTO and at Friday's on Stage. Mrs. Skeith's class played their recorders as part of this presentation. Mrs. Sanders' class would like to thank Mrs. Lehman and Mrs. Spears for all their hard work and dedication and Mrs. Skeith's students for their participation.

Mrs. Sanders would like to thank all the fifth grade parents who have purchased novels for reading class this year. The students have benefited from the challenge of reading this higher level material. All sections of the TCAP tests required reading skills that have been taught this year.



## **KROGER CARDS CONTINUE TO EARN MONEY FOR MHMS!**

The PTO owes a big "Thanks" to all of you faithful Kroger card shoppers who have earned the school more than \$1300 this school year. That means that we have purchased more than \$26,000 in groceries. The truly amazing part is that approximately thirty families have earned this money. How much has your family spent on groceries in the last seven months? If you spent it at Kroger, you could have earned money for our school! It's not too late to get a Kroger gift card. All our purchases this summer will be credited to MHMS and we will earn money. Please contact Susie Sanford at [sanfords@comcast.net](mailto:sanfords@comcast.net) or 452-9888 and find out how to become part of the Kroger money-making team!