

TRIVOCIS

THREE VOICES . . .
MAY 2009
VOLUME 56, NUMBER 8

STUDENTS, PARENTS, FACULTY
MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL
555 MIDDLEFIELD RD., ATHERTON, CA 94027 WWW.MABEARS.ORG 650/322-5311

From the Principal

Dear Menlo-Atherton Community:

Principal's Reflections:

I particularly enjoy award ceremonies and recognition events for younger students. Many times, we wait until students are at the cusp of graduation before we honor their achievement, skills, and accomplishments. During spring, we fete and celebrate seniors who typically have at least one foot out the proverbial M-A door. At a recent ceremony, I had the privilege of speaking to a group of distinguished Menlo-Atherton sophomores and juniors inducted into the National Honor Society. These young people, who are still developing their voices, finding their place, and powering through challenging academics, sports practice, and activities, are an interesting lot. As we know, adolescence today is more competitive and stressful than it was twenty-five years ago, and teenagers are given many contradictory messages. News headlines highlight titillating tales of greed and, until recently, glamorize conspicuous consumption. That is why it's so important to remind our young people that accomplishment is not an end in and of itself, but is part of leading an ethically driven life, guided by one's internal moral compass.

It was, therefore, such a pleasure at the induction ceremony to recognize a group of young M-A Bears whose aspirations and talents will be used to further the frontiers of science, the arts, and service, rather than simply to enrich themselves. M-A students are focused on the larger world and greater good, even if they are occasionally buried under a mountain of homework.

Budget & Planning: 2009-2010:

As my team and I plan for the next school year, we are guided by three principles:

1. Maintain the strength and breadth in our academic program (including current class sizes and programs);
2. Maintain student support services such as guidance and college counseling and the co-curricular programs that distinguish M-A: community service, clubs, Leadership, and our impressive sports program; and
3. Maintain efficient school operations.

Although the California budget picture remains weak, the local property tax dollars that fund much of the school's operation remain stable. The Foundation for the Future will provide "gap funding" to maintain the quality of individual programs and academic excellence overall. As such, contributions to the M-A Foundation are more crucial than ever.

When school resumes in August, class sizes will remain unchanged; our existing academic programs will keep their present configuration; and the student experience will remain of the highest quality. The one major change to the campus will be positive: Our long-awaited front parking and new driveway will be complete, and construction on the theatre will be winding down after more than two dust-filled years. I relish the idea of regaining access to the front of campus and having a new parking space!

Moving Forward:

Each year brings its unique challenges, rewards, and set of new personalities. On a school-wide basis, we look forward to expanding performing arts offerings and solidifying recent academic gains. As the achievement targets for No Child Left Behind increase, M-A will work to meet them without losing sight of our true purpose: student learning.

As you read this, we will be in the middle of STAR testing and headed into the final stretch of the academic year. College admission letters have been mailed and Menlo-Atherton seniors continue to gain acceptance into an impressive array of schools. Members of this strong senior class will attend colleges ranging from Whitman to Pepperdine to Macalester to Duke to Middlebury, in addition to well-known local schools within California like Stanford, U.C. Berkeley, and Saint Mary's College. M-A students are truly making their presence known in the collegiate realm. *(Continued on page 2)*



Upcoming PTA General Meetings
Tuesday, May 26, 8:30-10:30 am,
Wrestling Room

No School: Memorial Day, May 25
Minimum Day: Tuesday, May, 5
Senior Event Calendar p. 12
Spring Sports Awards Night
Thursday, May 11, 7:00 pm, Ayers Gym
Spring Band Concert & Sr Awards
Wednesday, May 20, 7:00 pm p. 10
Foundation for the Future p. 9
Help us reach our 2008-09 goal!
Go to www.m-afoundation.org to donate.

Big Bear Run: Sunday, May 3, 9:00 am
Registration form, p. 11

Grad Night: Thursday, June 4, 9:30 pm
Sign-up by May 12! Pick up forms in
Administration Office or B21. p. 10

Sign up for BearNotes and paperless
TriVocis: www.mabearspta.org
Send articles for next issue by May 15 to
trivocis@mabearspta.org

From the Principal, cont'd

Final Notes:

- M-A Technology teacher Inez Paepcke was named San Mateo County's Teacher of the Year.
- M-A English teacher Cat Burton was honored by the San Mateo Reading Association for her outstanding leadership and teaching.
- M-A tenth grader Gillian Collom organized a charity soccer tournament in Palo Alto to benefit Grass Roots Soccer, a group raising funds for childhood poverty in Africa.
- Twelfth grader Amrita Sehgal is a regional finalist in the 2008-2009 Young Epidemiology Scholars (YES) competition.
- Eleventh grader Jed Springer was named a water polo All-American.
- The varsity baseball team won the River City Baseball Tournament over spring recess.
- The boys' golf team placed an impressive seventh place in the Champions' Invitational Golf Tournament in Palm Springs over the break.

M-A students and staff are engaged with their world and distinguish themselves as scholars and athletes, as well as in community service. It is a privilege to lead such amazing people.

Respectfully,

Matthew Zito, Principal

From Our Superintendent

Dear Parents,

While I know your principal has been keeping you apprised of the current financial situation at your child's school, I wanted to take this opportunity to share some additional comments.

Throughout all of our planning, our focus is firmly fixed on preserving our quality educational program. Academic excellence and the quality of the student experience in our schools is our number one priority. At the District Office, we will shoulder the greatest percentage of cuts, and we are fully committed to making reductions at the schools as far from the classroom as possible.

Please be assured that the academic and student enrichment programs in the schools in the Sequoia district will continue to be excellent, innovative, and robust. Core academic programs and athletic and performing arts programs will remain intact. Class sizes may increase, but we will do everything we can to preserve the integrity of the instructional program.

We appreciate your continuing engagement and support during this process. We know you appreciate the serious challenges facing our state's schools. Despite being one of the world's largest economies, California is now dead last in the U.S. in terms of per-pupil funding. (We had been 47 out of 50 until recently.)

Although the state budget has finally passed, there is still a number of moving targets, such as the uncertainties of the May 19 special election and its effect on the new state budget. At this juncture, we also do not know the level of funding coming to our district from the federal stimulus package, or the outcome of the county's current reassessment of property values of all homes sold since January 2002. As developments unfold over the coming weeks and months, your principal will keep you updated.

Please be reminded that, despite the current uncertainties and challenges, there are reasons to be hopeful. The schools in the Sequoia district are stellar. Our faculty and professional support staff are distinguished. Our facilities and technology are exceptional. You, and other members of the local community, are engaged and supportive of us. We're going to harness all of these strengths to get to the other side of our current fiscal difficulties, and I believe we will emerge even stronger and better than we are today. We know you and your students are counting on us. Thank you for your time, and thank you for all that you do to contribute to the excellence of your child's school.

Sincerely,

Pat Gemma

Superintendent, Sequoia Union High School District

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 M-A HS PTA News
 17th District CCPT
 Published monthly by the PTA of Menlo-Atherton High School, 555 Middlefield Rd., Atherton, CA 94027
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The purpose of the newsletter is to promote communication between the administration/faculty and parents. We welcome all your comments, suggestions, and articles. The mention of any business or service in this newsletter does not imply an endorsement by the M-A PTA. Send submissions by e-mail to trivocis@mabearspta.org.

2008-09 Publication Dates		
Issue	Deadline	Mailing
June	May 15	May 28

M-A still needs your help in raising essential funds this year! We need \$110k more to reach our goal!

Our Goal: \$1,000,000
 To Date: \$890,000

FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE
 MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL
 Supporting Excellence in Education

Donate online at:
<http://www.m-afoundation.org/donate.php>

Estimada Comunidad de Menlo-Atherton:

Reflexión del director: Disfruto especialmente de ceremonias de galardones y eventos de reconocimiento para los estudiantes más jóvenes. Muchas veces esperamos hasta que los estudiantes lleguen al punto de graduarse antes de honrar sus éxitos, habilidades, y logros. Durante la primavera, festejamos y reconocemos a los alumnos de 12º grado quienes normalmente ya tienen un pie saliendo de la puerta proverbial de M-A. En una ceremonia reciente tuve el privilegio de hablar a un grupo de distinguidos alumnos de Menlo-Atherton de 10 y 11 grados admitidos en la Sociedad Nacional de Honor [National Honor Society].

Estos jóvenes, que aún están desarrollando sus voces, encontrando su lugar, y echando a andar a través de estimulantes estudios, entrenamiento deportivo, y actividades, son un grupo bastante interesante. Como ya sabemos, la adolescencia hoy en día es más competitiva y estresante que hace veinte y cinco años, y los adolescentes reciben muchos mensajes contradictorios. Los títulos noticieros destacan provocativas historias de codicia y, hasta hace poco, pintan de color de rosa el consumismo flagrante. Por eso es tan importante recordarles a nuestros jóvenes que el logro no es un fin en sí mismo, sino parte de llevar una vida guiada éticamente, dirigida por la brújula moral interna que uno tiene.

Consecuentemente, fue un gran placer reconocer, en la ceremonia de admisión, a un grupo de jóvenes M-A Bears cuyos talentos y aspiraciones se usarán para fomentar las fronteras de las ciencias, las artes y el servicio, en vez de para simplemente enriquecerse a sí mismos. Los estudiantes de M-A ponen sus miras en un mundo más grande y en el bien común, si bien de vez en cuando se ven enterrados bajo una montaña de tareas.

Presupuesto y Planificación: 2009-10: Al planificar mi equipo y yo para el próximo año escolar, nos guiamos por tres principios:

1. Mantener la fortaleza y amplitud de nuestro programa académico (incluyendo los programas y tamaños de clases actuales)
2. Mantener los servicios de atención al estudiante (tales como orientación y consejería universitario) y los programas co-curriculares que distinguen a M-A: Actividades, servicio a la comunidad, clubes, liderazgo, y nuestro impresionante programa deportivo.
3. Mantener eficaces operaciones de escuela.

Aunque la situación del presupuesto de California sigue débil, los dólares de los impuestos locales sobre la propiedad que financian una buena parte del funcionamiento de la escuela siguen estables. La Foundation for the Future podrá proporcionar "financiación de brecha" para mantener la calidad de los programas individuales y la excelencia académica general. Como tal, las contribuciones de la M-A Foundation son más cruciales ahora que nunca.

Cuando comience la escuela de nuevo en agosto, el tamaño de las clases seguirá sin cambios, nuestros existentes programas académicos mantendrán su configuración actual, y la experiencia estudiantil seguirá teniendo la más alta calidad. El único cambio grande en el campus será positivo – nuestro muy esperado estacionamiento frontal y la nueva entrada se terminarán, y las obras al teatro acabarán después de más de dos años llenos de polvo. Aprecio mucho la idea de recobrar el acceso al frente del campus y un nuevo espacio para estacionar.

Avanzando: Cada año trae sus desafíos, premios, y nuevas personalidades. En términos generales, esperamos con mucha expectación la expansión de las ofertas de las artes escénicas y la solidificación de los últimos logros académicos. Al aumentar los objetivos de nuestros resultados de "No Child Left Behind", M-A trabajará para cumplirlos sin perder de vista nuestro verdadero propósito: el aprendizaje del alumno.

Cuando usted lea esto, estaremos en plenos exámenes STAR y en camino hacia el trecho final del año académico. Las cartas de admisión a las universidades se han enviado y los alumnos de 12º grado siguen ganando entrada a un impresionante surtido de escuelas. Los miembros de esta fuerte clase de alumnos de 12º grado asistirán a universidades como Whitman, Pepperdine, Macalester, Duke, y Middlebury, además de las más conocidas localmente dentro de California como Stanford, U.C. Berkeley, y Saint Mary's College. Los estudiantes de M-A están realmente dándose a conocer en el ámbito universitario.

Notas Finales:

- La profesora de tecnología de M-A, Inez Paepcke, ha sido nombrada Profesora del Año del Condado de San Mateo.
- La profesora de inglés de M-A, Cat Burton, ha sido honrada por la Asociación de Lectura de San Mateo por su liderazgo y enseñanza excepcional.
- El alumno de 10 grado, Gillian Collom, organizó un benéfico torneo de fútbol en Palo Alto para beneficiar a Grass Roots Soccer, un grupo que recauda fondos para la pobreza infantil en África.
- La alumna de 12 grado, Amrita Sehgal, es Finalista Regional en la Competición Young Epidemiology Scholars (YES) de 2008-09.
- El alumno de 11 grado, Jed Springer, fue nombrado All American en polo acuático.
- El equipo Varsity de béisbol ganó el Torneo de Béisbol de River City durante las vacaciones de primavera.
- El equipo masculino de golf quedó en un impresionante séptimo lugar en el Torneo de golf "Champions Invitational" en Palm Springs durante las vacaciones.

Los estudiantes y la plantilla de M-A están involucrados con su mundo y se distinguen como eruditos y atletas, tanto como en el servicio a la comunidad. Es un privilegio dirigir gente tan estupenda.

Sinceramente, Matthew Zito, Director

Un Mensaje del Superintendente de Sequoia High School District

Estimados padres,

Mientras que se que su director/directora los ha mantenido al tanto de las situaciones económicas actuales en la escuela de su estudiante, quiero tomar esta oportunidad para compartir algunos comentarios adicionales.

A lo largo de nuestra planificación, nuestro enfoque está firmemente fijo en preservar la calidad de nuestro programa educativo. La excelencia académica y la calidad de experiencia del estudiante en nuestras escuelas es nuestra prioridad.

Nosotros en el distrito enfrentaremos la mayoría de los cortes de trabajo, y estamos completamente comprometidos en hacer estas reducciones en las escuelas lo más lejos de los salones de clase.

Tengan por seguro que los programas académicos y de enriquecimiento en las escuelas del distrito escolar de Sequoia continuarán a ser excelente, innovadores y robustos. Los programas académicos comunes, y los programas de atletismo y artes interpretativas se mantendrán intactos. Puede que el tamaño de las clases aumente, pero haremos todo lo que podamos para preservar la integridad del programa de instrucción.

Apreciamos su participación continua y apoyo durante este proceso. Sabemos que ustedes aprecian los retos serios que las escuelas de nuestro estado están enfrentando. A pesar de ser una de las economías más grandes del mundo, California es ahora el último estado en términos de fondos por estudiante (éramos 47 de 50 hasta recientemente).

Aunque el presupuesto del estado finalmente pasó, hay aún algunos blancos moviéndose, tal como la inseguridad de la elección especial el 19 de marzo y sus efectos al nuevo presupuesto del estado. En este momento, no sabemos el nivel de los fondos que llegarán a nuestro distrito del paquete de estímulo federal, o el resultado de la revaloración de los valores de propiedad de todas las casas del país que se vendieron desde enero 2002. Mientras que los acontecimientos se desarrollan sobre las próximas semanas y meses, su director/directora los mantendrá actualizados.

Les recordamos que, a pesar de las incertidumbres actuales y los retos, hay razones para tener esperanzas. Las escuelas en el distrito escolar de *Sequoia* son estelares. Nuestra facultad y personal de apoyo profesional son distinguidos. Nuestras instalaciones y la tecnología son excepcionales. Ustedes, y otros miembros de la comunidad local son dedicados y nos apoyan. Vamos a aprovechar todas estas fortalezas para llegar al otro lado de nuestras dificultades económicas actuales, y yo creo que saldremos más fuertes y mejores de lo que somos hoy. Sabemos que ustedes y sus estudiantes están contando con nosotros.

Gracias por su tiempo, y gracias por todo lo que hacen para contribuir a la excelencia de la escuela de sus hijos.

Atentamente,

Pat Gemma

Superintendente, Sequoia Union High School District

UN MENSAJE DE SUS PRESIDENTAS DEL PTA

Construyendo para el Futuro

El PTA de M-A se siente muy agradecido por todos los maravillosos eventos que ha habido este año en nuestro colegio. Eventos que han enriquecido las vidas de nuestros hijos, y por lo tanto las nuestras también. Hemos empezado a planificar las actividades del año escolar entrante. Gracias a los esfuerzos de Julie Brody y nuestro comité de nominaciones, tendremos una nueva mesa directiva del PTA, así como jefes de comités. Estamos tan agradecidos de tener un equipo tan maravilloso de voluntarios listos a participar en tantos programas y eventos de M-A. Estamos tan orgullosos de poder asistir de maneras tan significativas a nuestros estudiantes, maestros, administradores y familias.

Gracias a las personas que se han tomado el tiempo para nominar a sus voluntarios favoritos para el PTA Service Award, así como a los estudiantes que han mandado su nominación para el premio Principal's Student Service Award.

M-A's PTA y el Foundation for the Future honraran este próximo 20 de mayo durante el May Appreciation Luncheon a los empleados de M-A y a los voluntarios de la comunidad que han contribuido y marcado las vidas de nuestros estudiantes, padres de familia y maestros.

Reconociendo que cada voluntario es especial y cada contribución financiera tiene un impacto, sin importar que tan grande o pequeña, estaremos honrando aquellas personas que se han tomado el tiempo de sus vidas ocupadas para ayudar a M-A de manera consistente. Recibirán un premio especial por su excelencia y se donarán libros a la M-A Library en su honor.

Tristemente les decimos "adiós" a nuestras familias que se gradúan con un premio "Bear Farewell" y les damos las gracias por sus contribuciones a M-A. Les deseamos lo mejor en sus nuevos horizontes..

Por favor considere asistir a nuestra próxima junta general del PTA.

PTA General Meeting: Martes 26 de mayo a las 8:30 am Wrestling Room

Venga y juntos apoyemos al **Big Bear Run el 3 de mayo!**

Es una manera maravillosa de gozar una mañana con amigos, familia y la comunidad.

Marque su calendario para nuestra última conferencia de padres de familia este próximo 13 de mayo.

Esperamos que estén gozando de la primavera y que sus familia esté sana y segura. Les agradecemos a todos por ser parte de la comunidad de M-A.

Respectuosamente,

Denise Bullwinkel y Janet Perez, Co-Presidentas
(president@mabearspta.org)

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PTA PRESIDENTS

Building for Tomorrow

The M-A PTA is feeling grateful for all the wonderful events that have taken place on our campus this year which have enriched the lives of our children, and all of us as a result. We have started planning for next year's activities. Thanks to the dedication of Julie Brody and our Nominating Committee, we shall have a new PTA Executive Board and committee chairs in place for next year.

We are very thankful to have an amazing team of volunteers willing to participate in Menlo-Atherton's varied programs and events. We are so proud to be able to serve our students, faculty, administration, and families in meaningful ways. Thank you to the individuals who have taken the time to nominate their favorite volunteers for PTA Service Awards and the students who have submitted applications for our new Principal's Student Service Award. M-A's PTA and Foundation for the Future will honor the M-A staff and community volunteers who have made a significant difference in the lives of our students, parents, and faculty at the May Appreciation Luncheon on May 20th. Although each volunteer is special and every contribution, no matter how large or small, makes an impact, we will be recognizing those people who have taken time from their busy lives to consistently contribute to M-A. They will receive a special award for their excellence and books will be adopted for the M-A Library in honor of these recipients. We sadly say "goodbye" to our graduating families with "Bear Farewell" awards, thank them for their contributions to M-A, and wish them well in their future endeavors.

Please consider attending our next **PTA General Meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 8:30 am, Wrestling Room.** Come join together and support the **Big Bear Run on Sunday, May 3rd!** It is a wonderful way to enjoy the morning with friends, family, and community. **Save the date of May 13 and attend our final Parent Education Class.**

We hope that in whatever way you are celebrating the warmth of spring, your family is healthy and safe. We thank you all for being part of the M-A Community.

Respectfully,

Denise Bullwinkel and Janet Perez, Co-Presidents
(president@mabearspta.org)

M-A PTA May Bear Hugs

Many thanks to Julie Kleck and Stacy Fredericksen for helping Junior families avoid future stress by planning and hosting a Junior Parent Night to outline the senior year timeline of events.

Our deepest appreciation goes to Pam Stoner for serving on the SDMSC (Shared Decision-Making Site Council) and bringing a parent perspective to school policies and issues.

Your outgoing PTA Co-Presidents, Denise Bullwinkel and Janet Perez, would like to thank our stellar Executive Board for their support, leadership, and responsiveness to the needs of our members: Lisa McNamara and John McMurtry, Co-Vice Presidents; Molly Eason, Treasurer, Pam Songer, Secretary; Kristin Smith, Auditor; Julie Brody, Parliamentarian; and Pam Stoner, SDMSC PTA Vice-President.

Our continued gratitude goes to Julie Brody, Kris DeLisle, and Pam Stoner for providing vital communication to M-A parent and staff subscribers in the form of BearNotes, the weekly email newsletter.

Special thanks go to the entire Trivocis team, for their professionally produced monthly newsletter packed with information and compelling articles: Kimberly Carlisle, Gale Lane, Kathleen Balestra, Jane King, Judith Weber, and Debbie Hall.

We can't thank Debbie Verity enough for her thoughtful and masterful editing and production of our PTA web site.

Thanks also go to Debbie and her Grad Night Committee, also mentioning graduated parent Patrice Hightower who has donated hours of time to assist her sister Charlene Margot who is also on the committee. Charlene should also be recognized for her hours of leadership toward the Parent Education Series sponsored by the PTA.

This is but a short list of all the volunteers at our Menlo Atherton High School who make up the volunteer community!! Thank you all!!!

"M-A's Own" PSAT/SAT Prep

This fall, "M-A's Own" PSAT/SAT Prep. is entering its 30th year of serving Menlo-Atherton students and others with residence in its attendance area. We have indeed a long record of assisting students in their full-of-tests junior year, and we offer the same help to seniors and sophomores when there is space available. We are currently enrolling for the PSAT this coming October as well as for SAT preparation in the spring of 2010.

We need a class of 20 students to be able to offer our minimum fee of \$100.00. The fee goes upward as enrollment diminishes, but it never goes over \$225.00, and \$225.00 is a fee of only \$15.00 a tutoring hour, which is a terrific bargain. We provide first-class instruction, comparable with the best anywhere. We are a non-profit organization. We operate on a no refund, no make-up basis in order to keep our costs low, but we do provide the work a student who has been absent has missed, with instructions, so that the student can proceed on his or her own.

First preference is given to juniors, whose need is greatest, and second are the seniors who have not previously taken the SAT. Sophomores do not need to take either exam; but if they or their parents want an early view of the process and there is space available, they will be enrolled. We take a wait list and enroll on a first-come, first-served basis for sophomores.

For any questions about enrollment in this year's classes or the PSAT/SAT in general, contact Jane King, director of the program, at 323-4066 or by email at jcking@juno.com. Remember our motto: "As good as the best, and better than all the rest."

De La Oficina de Consejería

Por Silvia Torres-Garza, encargada del Departamento de Consejería, Francine Andrade, Gregory Baumann, Laura Duran, Karina Escobar-Weaver, Paula Kousounadis y Julie Watts, consejeras.

El final de año escolar esta muy cerca y el verano está a la vuelta de la esquina. Durante el verano, muchos de los estudiantes van a asistir la escuela de verano. Queremos recordarles que la escuela de verano se llevará a cabo en las escuelas Carlmont y Sequoia. La primera sesión se llevará a cabo el 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30 de junio y el 1 y 2 de julio. La segunda sesión se llevará a cabo el 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23 y 24 de julio. Las clases comenzarán cada día a las 8:00 am y terminarán a las 1:30 pm y habrá un recreo de 20 minutos.

Si su estudiante necesita asistir a la escuela de verano y no se ha inscrito todavía, por favor póngase en contacto lo más pronto posible con el consejero de su estudiante. Aquellos estudiantes que estan registrados para asistir la escuela de verano tienen que asistir el primer día de la sesión ó de lo contrario serán eliminados de la lista. Si su estudiante no va a poder asistir el primer día de escuela, por favor póngase en contacto con la oficina de la escuela de verano al (650) 839-8980 o summerschool@seq.org.

Actualmente estamos trabajando en el itinerario de clases para toda la escuela y durante el mes de mayo vamos a enviar por correo una carta que va a incluir una copia del itinerario de clases que su estudiante ha seleccionado para el año escolar del 2009-2010. Por favor regrese la carta a la oficina de consejería SOLAMENTE si solicita cambios en el horario para el próximo año. Si solicitan cambios, ustedes necesitan regresar la carta a la oficina de consejería a más tardar, una semana después de recibir la carta. Ciertas clases ya no tienen cupo. Si ustedes solicitan un cambio en una clase electiva, por favor escriba tres opciones de clases electivas. Aquellos estudiantes que han solicitado clases avanzadas (AP), Química Avanzada, o Física Avanzada tienen que completar las tareas requeridas durante el verano. Cambios de nivel de clases avanzadas a clases regulares durante el otoño estan limitadas y, por lo tanto, no hay garantía.

Atención estudiantes del Doceavo Grado!

Graduación este año se llevará a cabo el 4 de junio. Los estudiantes del doceavo grado que están inscritos en el programa de la escuela del sábado necesitan completar sus clases y exámenes a más tardar el 16 de mayo del 2009. Los estudiantes que están inscritos en el programa de la escuela después de escuela necesitan completar sus clases y exámenes a más tardar el 22 de mayo del 2009. Los estudiantes del doceavo grado que reprueban clases requeridas para graduarse ó no someten los créditos necesarios para satisfacer los requisitos, *no* se podrán graduar en junio y *no* podrán participar en la ceremonia de graduación. Si ud. tiene preguntas, por favor póngase en contacto con el consejero de su estudiante.

Las calificaciones del progreso del último semestre serán enviadas por correo durante la primera semana de mayo.

ESTUDIANTES DEL DOCEAVO GRADO! Recuerde someter su solicitud para mandar el último Expediente Académico a las universidades ó colegios que planea asistir en el otoño. **Estas solicitudes se encuentran en la oficina de consejería. Por favor incluya un sobre con la dirección ó colegio con su estampilla y dos dólares con cada solicitud.** La oficina cerrará antes del 30 de junio, y su estudiante tiene que asegurarse de darnos suficiente tiempo para procesar la solicitud de enviar el expediente académico.

Educación Física

Por el momento, los estudiantes pueden, comenzando este verano, tomar clases de Educación Física en el colegio de la comunidad después de completar el décimo grado a través del program de colegio para nuestros estudiantes titulado "Concurrent Enrollment Program". Los créditos que éstos estudiantes obtengan en éstas clases pueden sumarse a los 20 créditos de educación física que son requeridos por el distrito de Sequoia. Por favor tome nota de la siguiente información con relación a los créditos para aquellos estudiantes que toman clases de educación física en los colegios de la comunidad:

Colegios con horarios de semestre: Cañada College, College of San Mateo, Skyline College: 1 unidad de Educación Física en el colegio = 2.5 créditos de educación física en la escuela superior de Menlo-Atherton.

Colegios con horarios de trimestre: Foothill College: 2 unidades de educación física en el colegio = 2.5 créditos de educación física en la escuela superior de Menlo-Atherton.

Estudiantes interesados en esta opción, deben recoger un horario de clases de los colegios de la comunidad, al mismo tiempo los formularios con la aplicación y también reunirse con su consejero. Referirse a éstos formularios para informarse sobre las fechas para registrarse.

Clase del 2010: Por favor tome nota que si usted tiene planes de tomar clases de educación física en el colegio comunitario para cumplir con los requisitos de graduación, usted **debe completar** todos los créditos necesarios a más tardar durante el semestre de otoño del 2009 y la oficina de consejería necesita recibir su expediente académico oficial del colegio comunitario a más tardar el 18 de diciembre del 2009.

Clase del 2013

La oficina de consejería necesita una copia de su partida de nacimiento o una copia de su pasaporte válido.

From the Guidance Office

By Silvia Torres-Garza, Head Guidance Counselor,

Francine Andrade, Gregory Baumann, Karina Escobar-Weaver, Paula Kousounadis, and Julie Watts, Guidance Counselors

The end of this school year is near and summer is just around the corner. Progress grades for the fourth quarter will be mailed around the first week of May.

During the summer, many students will be attending summer school. Please remember that summer school will be held at Carlmont High School and Sequoia High School. The first session will be held on June 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, and July 1 and 2. The second session will be held on July 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24. Classes will start each day at 8:00 am and end at 1:30 pm and will include one twenty-minute break.

If your student needs summer school and has not signed up, please contact your student's guidance counselor as soon as possible. Students registered for summer school are expected to show up on the first day of the session or they will be dropped. If your student has to miss the first day, contact the summer school office at (650) 839-8980 or summerschool@seq.org.

We are currently working on the Master Schedule and will mail you a letter with a copy of your student's class selections for the 2009 – 2010 school during the month of May. Please return the bottom portion of the letter to the Guidance Office ONLY if you request changes. To request changes, you will need to return the bottom portion of the letter within a week of receiving it. Certain classes are already closed. If you request a change for an elective class, please provide three elective choices. Students who requested AP courses, AS Chemistry or AS Physics must complete summer assignments, if required. Class-level changes in the fall are limited to space available, and, therefore, are not guaranteed.

SENIORS! SENIORS! SENIORS!

Graduation this year will take place June 4th. Seniors who are enrolled in the Saturday Scholars Program must complete coursework and tests no later than May 16, 2009. Seniors who are enrolled in the School After School Program must complete coursework and tests no later than May 22, 2009. Seniors who fail to complete required coursework or fail to submit credits necessary to satisfy graduation requirements will

not graduate in June and will not be able to participate in the graduation ceremony. If you have any questions, contact your guidance counselor.

Seniors: Final Transcripts

Remember to submit your request to have your final transcript mailed to the college you will be attending this fall. Forms are located in the Guidance Office. Please include a stamped envelope addressed to the college and \$2 for each transcript you request. Since our office will close before the end of June, you will need to make sure you give us enough time to process your transcript request.

Physical Education (P.E.)

Students can take P.E. classes at community colleges, starting the summer after they complete the tenth grade, through the Concurrent Enrollment Program. The credits students earn in these classes count towards the 20 credits of physical education required for graduation. Please refer to the information listed below for the credit conversion for students who take P.E. classes at a community college:

- Colleges on semester schedule (Cañada College, College of San Mateo, Skyline College): 1 unit of P.E. at college = 2.5 credits of P.E. at Menlo-Atherton H.S.
- Colleges on quarter schedule (Foothill College): 2 units of P.E. at college = 2.5 credits of P.E. at Menlo-Atherton H.S.

Students interested in this option must pick up a Schedule of Classes for the community college, as well as the respective Concurrent Enrollment Form, and see their guidance counselor. Please refer to the forms for information on registration deadlines.

If you are in the Class of 2010 and plan to take P.E. credits at the community college to meet graduation requirements, you must complete all credits by the end of the Fall 2009 semester and the Guidance Office must receive your final transcript by Dec. 18, 2009.

Attention: Class of 2013

The Guidance Office needs a copy of your birth certificate or a valid copy of your passport.

Parenting Teens and Younger Children in this Economy

As adults, we certainly have concerns over the current economy and the effect on our own household budget. We have had to scrimp and save and have even had to work hard to keep our jobs. So how do we help our children during this tough time? How do we keep them somewhat sheltered from the grim realities of life?

Here are 10 Tips for Parents to Ease Worry over the Economy

1. It is important to let teens and children know that you are the parents and will take care of the adult issues. Even if it means changes in the family – a move, a second job – they will feel safe when they are confident that the adult is in charge and that you will take care of them.
2. Teens and children can feel they have some control over the situation when they can do something to help. They can learn to make homemade gifts for birthdays. In fact, sometimes those end up being the most precious for parents.
3. Try not to overdo it. Too much comfort or indulging of children can have the opposite effect. For example, when a teen is afraid to sleep alone, an alternative is to be with them until they settle into sleep. To have them sleep in your bed gives them the message, “yes, you have something to be afraid of in your bed.” *(Continued on p. 8)*

FROM THE COLLEGE/CAREER CENTER

At this time of year, many seniors feel elated and others feel disappointed as they receive news from four-year colleges. Overall, the news at M-A this year is heartening and positive.

It is hard for students (and families) not to take college admission decisions personally, but truly it is important to understand what is behind these decisions, and to take them as philosophically and positively as possible. While I have enough years of perspective to know that students who have not been admitted to the college of their choice will find a spot somewhere and be perfectly happy, students who have met with “rejection” are not always ready to take such a clear-thinking attitude. We need to remember (and remind others) that it’s a time to be sensitive to the feelings of both the elated and the disappointed. Students whose dreams have come true need to celebrate with a sensitive eye to those around them who feel less fortunate. Everything will be okay ... but there are students right now who do not realize that ... yet.

In particular, students (and parents) are often mystified by decisions made by highly selective colleges. As notices arrive in the mail (or, now, on the Internet!), I hear the same questions: “Why did *she* get in? *My* grades and test scores were a lot higher and I wasn’t admitted.” “What more could my son possibly have done? He seemed like the ideal applicant!” “I know a minority student [substitute “athlete” or “legacy” here!] who was admitted who didn’t have the stats my kid has!” Please see the FAQ at www.macareercenter.com for some “answers” to these questions.

The last several weeks, it has been gratifying to see a lot of juniors coming by the Career Center or sending me e-mails with questions. It's clear that juniors are beginning to think about college, careers, scholarships, and financial aid—good for them! I never get tired of the questions—except one.... Let me share with you the one question I am not so happy to hear. All too often, students ask me, “Which will *look better*, this class or that class?” “Which will *look better*: this summer program or that summer program?” “Which will *look better*: this activity or that activity?” It is an extremely frustrating question, because it gives me the sense that students are trying to create themselves into “packages” that will be appealing to colleges. I deeply believe this is not the way to go through high school! Not only will it diminish the student's enjoyment of grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 (which are not, by the way, simply stepping stones to college) but it is also not likely to be a successful strategy for college admission, even if you believe in strategizing (which I don't!). It is quite obvious to college admissions professionals when students have tried to pad a résumé or assemble a list of qualifications.

Which will you *enjoy* more: this class or that class? Which is closer to your areas of interest: this summer program or that summer program? Which are you eager to plunge into with a sense of commitment: this activity or that activity? Towards which classes, programs, or activities can you direct genuine enthusiasm without undue stress and without trying to work up an artificial interest? Amazingly, when students make decisions to head towards their passions and true interests, when they make choices without regard to what would “look good,” when they realize that no one expects them to do everything or to amass a résumé of sparkly achievements, they will—lo and behold—*look good* to colleges! But far more importantly, they will *feel good* and have a positive, meaningful experience right here in high school.

Meanwhile, keep those questions coming!

Alice Kleeman

Parenting Teens, cont'd from p. 7

4. Be realistic. Do the best you can. Don't give up on the job search. Your child will see this and will feel that you are actively working to find a job and you will be modeling competence and determination.
5. Parents – take care of yourself as well as your children. If you are fearful and beginning to see signs of panic, get help for yourself, and your children will be the beneficiaries
6. Children do pick up on unspoken behavior and tension in the house. Be careful what you say to other adults or spouses. “Little pitchers have big ears” is a saying that is as true as ever in this economically stressful environment.
7. No matter the age of your child, he or she can learn how money works. Even younger children can learn to save money and can understand that when there is not much money to spend, it is a great idea to reuse and recycle.
8. Adolescents can benefit from the direct approach. Parents can show them the family budget and, in a positive way, educate them about the changes. Teens can help out, if they are able to, with small jobs in the neighborhood or by helping at home with younger brothers and sisters.
9. Older children can understand what a downturn in the economy is. They do not need to feel that parents are in a panic, but they can learn that like life itself, there are ups and downs.
10. Take a deep breath. You will get through this tough economic time. It may take dipping into your reserves of energy, inventiveness, and stick-to-it-iveness, but it can be done!



**Adolescent
Counseling
Services**

Adolescent Counseling Services is a community non-profit, which provides vital counseling services on seven secondary campuses at no charge to students and their families. To learn more about our services please visit the ACS website at www.acs-teens.org or call Margaret Murchan at ACS at (650) 424-0852, ext. 102. ACS relies on the generosity of community members to continue offering individual, family, and group counseling to over 1,500 individuals annually. ACS provides critical interventions and mental health services, building a better future for tomorrow. If you are interested in helping to support our efforts, do not hesitate to call to make a donation. It goes a long way in helping teenagers find their way!

M-A needs your help!

April 23, 2009

Dear M-A Parents and Friends,

Many of you received an email this week from Principal Matthew Zito expressing concern with the Foundation for the Future's 2008-09 fundraising results to date. As Mr. Zito explained, the Foundation is behind in its \$1 million goal by approximately \$110,000. We need the support of generous and committed M-A families like yours to cover this shortfall.

Foundation funding makes the difference between an adequate and an exceptional education for every student at M-A. Your donations help us keep class sizes down, offer important advanced level courses and electives, provide outstanding college counseling services, and much more.

If you have not yet given to the Foundation's 2008-09 Annual Campaign, or if you are able to increase your previous gift, please visit

<http://www.m-afoundation.org/donate.php>

to donate online, or mail a check payable to "M-A Foundation for the Future", P.O. Box 1228, Menlo Park, CA 94026.

Like Mr. Zito, the Foundation for the Future is committed to preserving the academic programs at M-A even in the face of budget cuts. We are working hard to ensure that the classroom experience is preserved and that the school's superior teaching staff is retained. Please help us fulfill that promise by making a gift of any size today. Thank you for doing everything you can to support M-A this year.

Sincerely,



Kathy Jackson
Co-President



Bill Kirsch
Co-President

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M-A High School
P.O. Box 1228
Menlo Park, CA 94026
Tel: (650) 322-5311 x5206
www.m-afoundation.org

Band Takes Home Gold, Silver

By Mary Hom, Band Booster Chair tream5@juno.com

M-A's Concert Band and Advanced Jazz Band had a very full and successful band trip to Hawaii this month, which was planned to celebrate Hawaii's 50 years of statehood. Menlo-Atherton participated in nationally accredited Heritage Music Festivals, April 4th. The Advanced Jazz Band received a Gold Award and also brought home three trophies – tying for Best Musical Group, winning Best Instrumental Group, and also winning an Adjudicator's Award, given for a score of 95 or higher. Two students won a Maestro Award, which is given to outstanding soloists: Tom Ivy on clarinet and Joel Feier on drums. The Concert Band received a Silver Award for its performance score of 87, which is the best score an M-A Concert Band has achieved in 11 years.

M-A also participated in the local Hawaii Music Festival, competing with and listening to many fine Hawaiian bands. Both bands delighted audiences at Ala Moana Centerstage and the USS Missouri, prompting strangers to videotape us and ask us where our next gig was. Mr. Moura was presented with a flag flown on the ship, commemorating the bands' performances. The Advanced Jazz Band had one additional performance at Ward Warehouse Amphitheatre as a part of the Na Mele Nei "First Sunday" Concert Series and breezily fulfilled the bill of providing "delightful island-style afternoon entertainment."

Want to catch some of that aloha spirit? Come enjoy fine jazz music and cocktails at Stanford Golf Clubhouse, May 17, from 5 to 7 pm, or treat your favorite jazz-loving teacher and spouse. There are still limited tickets available for our band auction fundraiser. Please contact me for more information.

The Partner School Concert, March 25, was well attended in Ayers Gym, and we again thank Principal Matthew Zito for his strong support of the music program. We also want to thank Mr. Brien Oliver and Mr. Keith Perkins and the rest of the custodial staff for cheerfully helping us make the gym a musical venue for the evening. And we thank Ms. Pam Wimberly and the Athletic Department for the use of the gym.

Upcoming festivals include the Cal State University East Bay-Hayward Jazz Festival, April 17-18, the Reno Jazz Festival, April 24-26, and the CMEA Concert Band Festival, May 15.

M-A's Concert Band and Jazz Band will perform the afternoon of Saturday, May 2, at Kepler's Magic of Reading Celebration. 10% of all store sales will be donated to Belle Haven Library, so please join us at this special community event.

M-A's Pep Band will once again rally runners to the finish line at the Big Bear Run, May 3.

We will end the year with our Spring Concert and Senior Awards Ceremony, Wednesday, May 20, to be held 7:00-9:30 pm, at Carrington Hall on the campus of Sequoia High School in Redwood City. All are welcome to come and hear all the bands play and wish our seniors adieu.

Please visit our website <http://www.mabandboosters.org/> for more information on band events.

Plans Underway for Grad Night 2009

By Charlene Margot, Grad Night 2009 Committee

Planning for Grad Night 2009, with its theme of "One Enchanted Evening," is well underway! This year's Grad Night celebration for the Class of 2009 promises to be a very special event, held at an *all-new* venue for Menlo-Atherton. But "Shhhh.....!" The location, as per Menlo-Atherton tradition, is a secret.

Grad Night is an all-night "Safe and Sober" event, open to all eligible Menlo-Atherton High School seniors. The Grad Night party begins with check-in at M-A at 9:30 pm on the evening of graduation (Thursday, June 4) and concludes at 5:15 am the morning of Friday, June 5. Ticket forms and parent permission slips were mailed to seniors' families in March, and forms are still available in the M-A Administration Office or in B21. Seniors: This will be your last chance to celebrate together, as a group, with your classmates!

The Grad Night Committee is most grateful to those who have made underwriting donations. If you have not done so, please consider making a contribution of any amount, *to fully fund our scholarship program*. We are grateful for everyone's help to ensure that that cost is NOT an issue and that ALL M-A seniors can celebrate their accomplishments together. Senior parents can include donations in the check they write for their students' Grad Night admission. ALL M-A parents are also welcome to contribute by writing a check payable to: M-A PTA. Please mail your donations to **Debbie Hall, 1245 Hillview Drive, Menlo Park, 94025**.

We have already received close to 100 Grad Night reservations, and they continue to flow in at a steady pace. To see who has already signed up, check the list posted in Pride Hall. It will be updated every two weeks. **Remember, the deadline to turn in your registration form with payment is Tuesday, May 12, 2009.**

Full and partial scholarships are available (see form for details). Grad Night registration can also be completed by turning in your form with payment at one of the six upcoming on-campus registration days: **April 27, April 29, May 1, May 8, May 11, and May 12** (all held on the green at lunch time).

The Grad Night Committee is grateful to former M-A parent and graphic designer Patrice Hightower of Hightower Designs (www.hightowerdesigns.com), now based in AZ. Patrice has contributed her creative design services to make "One Enchanted Evening" a more fun and special event! The Committee would also like to thank the family of a graduating senior for contributing the printing costs to produce our terrific banners and posters. Thank you!

For questions regarding ticket sales, please contact Julie Gaston at gradnighttickets@mabearspta.org or (650) 324-2422.

For questions regarding scholarships, contact Charlene Margot at gradnightscholarships@mabearspta.org or (650) 868-0590.

The Grad Night 2009 Committee: Debbie Verity (Chair), Debbie Hall, Julie Gaston, Charlene Margot, Stacia Weisenflub

ATTENTION, SENIORS (and those watching closely over them!)

As Graduation 2009 nears, everyone wants to know the what, when, and where for all of M-A's wonderful upcoming Senior Events. Here is a one-pager that will answer your questions, and give you the right contact person to get more information.

2009 SENIOR ACTIVITIES - CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, April 20	SENIOR MEETING – mandatory Pick up senior packet, diploma request, activity & grad info	9:00 am	Ayers Gym
TBA	Pickup Jostens ANNOUNCEMENTS	Lunch	B-21 patio
Thursday, May 7	GRADUATION SPEECH INFORMATIONAL MEETING	Lunch	B-4
Monday & Tuesday, May 11 & May 12	SENIOR FAREWELL TRYOUTS Sign up in B-21 on the Senior Information Wall no later than Thursday, May 7	2:30 pm	B-4
Thursday, May 13	GRADUATION SPEECH Sign up in B-21 on the Senior Information Wall no later than Thursday, May 7	2:30 pm	Career Center
Monday, May 18	SUPER SENIOR MONDAY SENIOR WEEK TICKETS (does not include Grad Night) \$10 per person – on sale at lunch until Friday, May 29 Completed permission slips are required in order to purchase a ticket. This ticket is needed to attend the Senior Picnic and the Senior Breakfast.	Lunch	Patio/B-21
	CAP AND GOWN DISTRIBUTION	Lunch	Patio
	PICK UP CLEARANCE SLIP	Lunch	Patio
	DIPLOMA REQUEST FORMS DUE	3 pm	B-20/21
	FEES & FINES PAYMENTS (checks will not be accepted after May 18)	2 pm	Treasurer
Friday, May 29	SENIOR WEEK TICKETS – Final Day!!	2 pm	Patio/B-21
	CLEARANCE SLIPS DUE – Final Day!! You will not walk on the graduation stage if you don't complete a clearance slip!	2 pm	AVP Office
	SENIOR FAREWELL DRESS REHEARSAL	3 pm	New Gym
Monday, June 1	FINAL DAY OF CLASSES FOR SENIORS SENIOR FAREWELL Seniors Report Program Reception Immediately following program	6 pm 7 pm (open to all!)	New Gym Ayers Gym
Tuesday, June 2	SENIOR PICNIC	8:00 am – 2:00 pm	Huddart Park
	SENIOR AWARDS NIGHT (You will be notified if you are to receive an award)	7:00 pm	New Gym
Wednesday, June 3	SENIOR BREAKFAST	9:00 am	Gym Patio
	GRADUATION REHEARSAL You must attend if you want to participate in Thursday's graduation ceremony	10:15 am	Coach Parks Field
Thursday, June 4	GRADUATION DAY!!!! Seniors Report and Sign In Ceremony Pick up diplomas in Main Hall after the ceremony	3:00 pm 4:00 pm	Ayers Gym Coach Parks Field
	GRAD NIGHT PARTY (All students will be transported via charter bus!) Students Check In Return to M-A	9:00 pm 5:15 am	New Gym New Gym

Questions?

Regarding Class of '09 items, caps & gowns, etc.	contact	Jostens	650-350-1132
Regarding academic credits and graduation status	contact	Guidance Office	322-5311 x5121
Regarding Senior Activities	contact	Kelly Todd	322-5311 x5250 or preferably ktodd@seq.org
Regarding handicapped parking and seating	contact	Sandy Nelson	322-5311 x5131 or snelson@seq.org
Regarding administrative intervention	contact	Judy Duran	322-5311 x5130 or jduran@seq.org
Regarding Senior All-Nighter		Parent Chair- Debbie Verity at gradnight2009@mabearspta.org or 650-321-3069	
		Tickets-Julie Gaston at gradnighttickets@mabearspta.org or 650-324-2422	
		Scholarship requests- Charlene Margot at gradnightscholarships@mabearspta.org or 650-868-0590, or see Alice Kleeman in the M-A Career Center or Karina Escobar-Weaver in the Guidance Office	

Trivocis Calendar – May 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 27 10 th grade Life Science test, per 1-4 Grad Night tickets for sale @ lunch, on the Green Pacific Islander Parent Group Mtg 6:30-8:30 pm, Library	28 PTA meeting, 8:30-10:30 am, Wrestling room	29 Star Testing for 10th & 11th grades Grad Night tickets for sale @ lunch on the Green Drivers Ed for the Brain, 1:30-3:00 pm, Guidance Office	30 Star Testing for 10th & 11th grades WACC College Fair, 9:30-noon & 6-8 pm, Mission College Big Bear Run pre-registration, 1:30-5:00 pm, T-Lot	May 1 Star Testing Make-up Last day to drop a class without penalty Grad Night tickets for sale @ lunch, on the Green	2 SAT Test. 8:00 am Kepler's Celebration with M-A Concert and Jazz Bands <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> Sunday, 5/3: 4th Annual Big Bear Run 9-11 am </div>
4 Foundation for The Future meeting, 7:00 pm, Library	5 Minimum Day	6 SDMSC meeting, 2:00-3:15 pm	7 Teen Health Clinic, starts at 9 am Graduation Speech Info Mtg, lunch, B-4 M-A Choir Concert, 7 pm, Library	8 Grad Night tickets for sale @ lunch, on the Green	9 Integrate the 8 th graders at M-A) 10 am - Noon
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Staff Appreciation Week AP Exams STAR Testing Make-up </div>					
11 Grad Night tickets for sale @ lunch, on the Green <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-top: 5px;"> Senior Farewell Tryout 2:30 pm, B-4 </div>	12 Grad Night tickets for sale @ lunch on the Green – Final Day!! <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-top: 5px;"> CAHSEE (10th, 11th, and 12th grades) </div>	13 Drivers Ed for the Brain, 1:30-3 pm, Guidance Office Grad Speech Tryout, 2:30 pm, Career Ctr Parent Education series, 7:00 pm	14 ELAC meeting, 6-8 pm, Library	15 June Trivocis article deadline Leadership Spring Carnival, lunch	16 Bike ride fundraiser for Ravenswood Family Health Center, 8:30 am Senior course completion deadline for Saturday Scholars Program
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> AP Exams </div>					
18 SUPER SENIOR MONDAY Senior week tickets go on sale Cap/Gown distribution at lunch Diploma request forms due	19 Student of the Month Luncheon	20 May Appreciation Luncheon, 2-3:30 pm Spring Band Concert and Senior Awards Ceremony, 7:00-9:30 pm, Carrington Hall, Sequoia High School	21 Teen Health Clinic, starts at 9 am SDMSC meeting, 4:30-6:30 pm, Staff Lounge Spring Sports Awards 7-9 pm, Ayers Gym	22 Senior course completion deadline for School After School Program	23
25 No School Memorial Day	26 PTA Mtg, 8:30 am, Wrestling room Foundation for the Future meeting, 7:00 pm, Library	27	28 June Trivocis mailing	29 Dead Week – Finals Preparation Final day to purchase Senior Week tickets and turn in clearance slips (by 2:00 pm)	30
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Dead Week – Finals Preparation </div>					

<p>Future Events</p> <p>6/1 – Final day of classes for seniors</p> <p>6/1 – Senior Farewell, 7:00 pm</p> <p>6/1-6/4 – Final Exams</p> <p>6/2 – Senior Picnic, 8:00 am – 2:00 pm, Huddart Park</p> <p>6/2 – Senior Awards night, 7:00 pm, New Gym</p> <p>6/3 – Senior Breakfast (9 am) and Graduation rehearsal (10:15 am)</p> <p>6/4 – Last day of school, Graduation (4 pm) and Grad Night (9:30 pm-5:15 am)</p> <p>6/6 – SAT Subject Tests (www.collegeboard.com)</p>	<p>6/13 – ACT Test</p> <p>6/15-7/2 – Summer school session #1</p> <p>7/7-7/24 – Summer school session #2</p> <p>8/12-8/13 – Arena Check-in</p> <p>8/19 – First day of school</p> <p>The most current information about M-A events is available on the M-A PTA website: www.mabearspta.org. Submit calendar entries by email to trivociscalendar@mabearspta.org</p>
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Menlo-Atherton High School PTA
PTA, 17th Dist. CA.
Congress of Parents & Teachers
555 Middlefield Rd.
Atherton, CA 94027

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Send article submissions to: trivocis@mabearspta.org
Send calendar entries to: trivociscalendar@mabearspta.org

Next submission deadline – May 15, 2009
Next mailing date – May 28, 2009

This issue was mailed and a PDF version posted online at
www.mabearspta.org on April 23, 2009

One issue to each Menlo-Atherton High School family.
For divorced parents, one to each household.

JOIN THE FUN! **4th ANNUAL BIG BEAR RUN** **SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2009**

Don't miss this great M-A community event and the only M-A Athletic Boosters fundraiser. Our goal is to generate over \$60,000 to fund new uniforms, better equipment, assistant coach stipends, and much more to support over 900 M-A athletes. In addition to current M-A students and families, the 5K race draws alumni who graduated from M-A in the 1970s and '80s and lots of kids from Hillview, Oak Knoll and La Entrada. Last year, participants ranged in age from under six to over sixty, and awards are given for all age groups. Cheer on the runners while enjoying M-A's award winning Jazz Band, our enthusiastic Hakka Dancers, M-A's awesome Dance Team, M-A's spirited Cheerleading Team, and a display of artwork created by M-A's talented art students.

Use the registration form in this issue or download one from www.m-aboosters.org. Then, avoid the rush on race day by visiting us at our pre-race day registration event on Thursday, April 30, 1:30 – 5:00 pm at M-A's T-lot on Ringwood Avenue. And remember: The three sports teams with the highest percentage of participation and the three teams with the greatest number of participants will receive an extra \$500, \$250, or \$100 to spend in any way the coaches and players wish!

Senior Awards Night: Honoring Outstanding Achievements

*By Alice Hom, Kathy Wright, and Leslie Reblander,
Awards Night Co-Chairs*

The annual M-A Senior Awards Night will be held on Tuesday, June 2, at 7:00 pm in the New Gym. During this inspirational evening, sponsored by M-A PTA, many hard-working and talented seniors (and a smaller number of juniors) are honored for outstanding academic and extracurricular performance and service to the school and community. Some of the awards will be a surprise, while many will be recognition for awards already received. Recognition is given for a wide variety of scholarships, prizes, and commendations awarded to M-A students by school and community groups. Last year, more than 200 individuals were recognized.

Invitations will be mailed to families of students who will be receiving recognition. Awards to junior students will be presented early in the program, followed by senior awards. Refreshments will be served.

Congratulations to the deserving recipients!

WANTED: Old computers, working or not, to send home with hard-working, deserving M-A students who have no access to a computer at home. We will securely erase all information off your computer and refurbish it. Corporate and individual donations are welcome! We also need monitors, mice, keyboards, USB thumb (flash) drives, routers, wireless hardware, and HP laser printers. We can also use tax-deductible cash donations to purchase parts. Please pass the word since we are trying to get enough computers so there will be a computer in the house of every M-A student. Help bridge the digital divide by contacting Sue Kayton (650) 853-1711 or kayton@alum.mit.edu.