

TRIVOCIS

THREE VOICES . . . STUDENTS, PARENTS, FACULTY

JUNE 2011

VOLUME 58, NUMBER 9

MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL

555 MIDDLEFIELD RD., ATHERTON, CA 94027 WWW.MABEARS.ORG 650/322-5311



From the Principal

Dear Menlo-Atherton Community:

A warm welcome to new families and members of the Class of 2015. It's an exciting time to be at Menlo-Atherton and I'm excited to have a new group of Bears on our beautiful campus. The remainder of my column is focused on our new families, with some accolades at the

very end.

While the move to high school is a major life transition, there are many support services at the school to assist in the process. The first weeks of school are always busy and it will take until early October for many students to feel at home. There are a few ways to make the transition more seamless:

1. Complete Arena Check-In for ninth graders on Wednesday, August 17.
2. Attend the Class of 2015 orientation on Tuesday, August 23 at 8 a.m.
3. Become acquainted with the physical layout of the campus, including how to travel between the PE locker rooms and the main campus classroom wings. [The original part of the campus is laid out in alphabetically organized wings: A, B, C, D, and E. A campus map is available at www.mabears.org.]
4. Determine your child's transportation route to and from school, including drop-off and pick-up points.
5. Have your child bring a snack and a full lunch to school. Our schedule has placed lunch late in the day so it's very important to have a snack during the brunch period. Food service lines tend to be long at the beginning of the year.
6. Join a fall sports team: football, girls volleyball, boys & girls water polo, girls tennis, girls' golf, and cross- country (boys' and girls'). Download the sports packet at www.mabears.org or pick up a copy in the Vice-Principal's office.
7. Know the location of student bathrooms (including the one in the health clerk's office in the administrative wing). Bathrooms are located in Pride Hall, next to classroom E-7, and at the edge of the basketball courts, in addition to both locker rooms.
8. Have your child use a hall locker so s/he does not have to walk around campus with fifty pounds of textbooks or leave valuables in PE lockers.

End Notes:

- Our musical production of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* has been nominated for a Stage Top Honors in two categories: Outstanding Orchestra (Kent Kurrus) and Best Supporting Actress (for freshman Maddie Rostami).
- The girls frosh-soph lacrosse team won their league (the PAL) after an undefeated season.
- All four M-A swim teams won their league after a record-breaking season (girl's frosh-soph, boy's frosh-soph, girl's varsity, boy's varsity).
- The Menlo-Atherton Robotics Team competed at the FIRST Robotics Competition Nationals in St. Louis, Missouri, during the last week of April. M-A's team earned its spot in the national playoffs by taking first place (as part of an alliance with two other high schools) in the regional competition at UC Davis in March.
- We encourage all families to take advantage of our special FALL ATHLETIC CLEARANCE on July 25 and July 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Families can also submit their proof of Tdap vaccination on those days. The office will be very busy in August, and athletic packets can take a week or longer to process.
- Mandatory ARENA CHECK-IN is scheduled for August 17 and 18 in the New Gym on Ringwood Avenue.

Enjoy the summer months and remember to provide unstructured time for your high school student.

Respectfully,

Matthew Zito, Principal



Calendar Highlights

Finals

Tuesday, May 31 – Thursday, June 2

Last Day of School

Thursday, June 2

Graduation & Grad Night Party

Thursday, June 2

SAT Test

Saturday, June 4

Summer Session #1 Begins

Tuesday, June 14

Summer Session #2 Begins

Tuesday, July 5

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Send articles for next issue by Monday, August 15 to trivocis@mabearspta.org.

Estimada Comunidad de Menlo-Atherton:

Una cálida bienvenida a las nuevas familias y miembros de la Clase de 2015. Es un momento emocionante para estar en Menlo-Atherton y es emocionante tener un nuevo grupo de Bears en nuestro hermoso campus. El resto de mi columna se centra en nuestras nuevas familias, con algunos elogios al final.

Si bien el paso a la escuela secundaria es una transición importante de la vida, hay muchos servicios de apoyo en la escuela para ayudar en el proceso. Hay mucho jaleo las primeras semanas de clases y a muchos estudiantes les llevará hasta principios de octubre sentirse como en casa. Hay algunas maneras de hacer la transición más fluida:

1. Completar Arena Check-In [Inscripción en el estadio] para estudiantes de noveno grado el miércoles, 17 de agosto.
2. Asistir a la reunión de orientación de la Clase de 2015 el martes, 23 de agosto a las 8 de la mañana.
3. Familiarizarse con la distribución física del campus de la escuela, incluyendo cómo moverse entre los vestuarios de Educación Física y las alas de salones de clase del campus principal. La parte original del campus está distribuida en alas organizadas alfabéticamente: A, B, C, D y E. Se puede acceder a un plano del campus en www.mabears.org.
4. Determinar la ruta de transportación de su hijo/a para ir y venir de la escuela, incluyendo los sitios de llegada y recogida.
5. Asegurarse de que su hijo/a lleve un tentempié y un almuerzo completo a la escuela. El almuerzo está programado hacia las últimas horas del horario escolar por lo que es muy importante comer un tentempié durante el brunch [desayuno-almuerzo matutino]. Las colas de servicio de cafetería tienden a ser largas a principios del año.
6. Apuntarse a un equipo de deportes de otoño: fútbol americano, equipo femenino de voleibol, equipos femenino y masculino de polo acuático, equipo femenino de tenis, equipo femenino de golf y equipos femenino y masculino de carrera a campo traviesa. Descargar el paquete de deportes de www.mabears.org o recoger una copia en la oficina del Vice-Director.
7. Conocer la ubicación de los baños de estudiantes (incluyendo el de la oficina del personal de salud en el ala administrativa). Hay baños en Pride Hall, al lado del salón de clases E-7 y en la orilla de las canchas de basquetbol, además de en los dos vestuarios.
8. Facilitarle a su hijo el uso de un lóquer de pasillo para que no tenga que caminar por el campus con cincuenta libras de libros de texto o dejar objetos de valor en los casilleros de educación física.

Notas finales:

- Nuestra obra musical, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, ha sido nominada a un premio de Stage Top Honors en dos categorías: Orquesta Sobresaliente (Kent Kurrus) y Mejor Actriz de Reparto (para la alumna de 9^o grado Maddie Rostami).
- El equipo femenino de Lacrosse de nivel Frosh-Soph ganó la liga (PAL), después de una temporada invicta.
- Los cuatro equipos de natación de M-A ganaron la liga después de una temporada que bate todos los récords (los equipos femenino y masculino de nivel Frosh-Soph y los de nivel Varsity).
- El Equipo de Robótica logró ir a la Competición Nacional en Saint Louis.
- Animamos a todas las familias a aprovechar nuestra LIQUIDACIÓN DEPORTIVA DE OTOÑO el 25 y 26 de julio de las 10 a.m. a las 2 p.m. Asimismo, las familias pueden presentar su certificado de vacunación Tdap esos días. La oficina estará muy ocupada en agosto y procesar los paquetes deportivos podrá llevar una semana o más.
- La obligatoria INSCRIPCIÓN EN LA ARENA [ARENA CHECK-IN] está programada para el 17 y 18 de agosto en el Gimnasio Nuevo en Ringwood Avenue.

Disfruten de los meses de verano y recuerden dejar tiempo libre sin estructura para su estudiante de secundaria.

Atentamente,

Matthew Zito, Director

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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.,
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650-322-5311
www.mabearspta.org

Principal: Matthew Zito
PTA Co-Presidents:
Carol Orton, Amy Boyle
Articles Editor: Kimberly Carlisle
Production Editor: Amy Reardon
Calendar Editor: Kathleen Balestra
Proofreaders: Jane King, Becca Garcia
Mailing Committee:
Kelly Muenzen, Nancy Ryde, Corby Locke

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 email to trivocis@mabearspta.org.

2011 Publication Dates

Issue	Deadline	Mailing
Sept	Aug. 15	Aug 24

Menlo-Atherton High School

555 MIDDLEFIELD ROAD
ATHERTON, CA 94027-3484

(650) 322-5311

Matthew Zito, Principal
Steve Lippi, Instructional Vice Principal
Judy Duran, Administrative Vice Principal
Simone Kennel, Administrative Vice Principal
Sean Priest, Dean of Students

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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JAMES LIANIDES
Superintendent

April 11, 2011

Dear Menlo-Atherton Parent:

No student will be allowed to start school on August 25th, 2011 without proof of a T-dap vaccination. We need families to get their children this vaccination and provide proof to us this year, so we can have everyone in class for the new school year. Please fax (650-306-1738) or bring **your child's proof of immunizations by May 27th, 2011** to the Menlo-Atherton Health Office located in the Administration Wing.

Students may also receive their T-dap vaccination at:

- Fair Oaks Children's Clinic: 650-261-3710 (By appt only)
- Redwood City Mobile Health Van: 650-573-2786 (Call for days, times and locations).
- Ravenswood Family Health Center: (Drop in immunizations clinic), 650-330-7400
- Your doctor's office or any Redwood City, Costco, Target, or Walgreens store.

If you have any questions, please call Tonya Edgington in the Health Office at 650-322-5311 x5129; email her at tedgington@seq.org.

For more information on T-dap or immunization protocols, please contact Judy Sencenbaugh, District Nurse at jscencenbaugh@seq.org.

Tonya Edgington
Health Aide

Matthew Zito
Principal

Carlmont ■ Menlo-Atherton ■ Redwood ■ Sequoia ■ Woodside

From the PTA

We close out the school year (and our year as co-presidents!) with gratitude and thanks to the many volunteers who have been so generous with their time and talents. An annual M-A tradition is the recognition of the extraordinary efforts of volunteers, both within the parent community and within the student population. The 2010-2011 recipients of the PTA Service Awards and the 2010-2011 recipients of the Principal's Student Service Awards are:

2010-2011 M-A PTA Adult Service Award Recipients

Continuing Service Award

Susanne Amato
Susan Mohr

PTA Service Award

Noreen Carruthers
Trish Gump
Laura Hale
Beth Henninger
Yumi Kelley
Christina Peña

Community Service Award

Alice Hom

PTA President's Award

Amy Boyle
Carol Orton

Bear Farewells

Suzanne Amato
Kim Carlisle
Trish Gump
Laura Hale
Susan Mohr
Amy Reardon
Pam Stoner
Marla Stark
Barb Windham
Cindie White

2010-2011 M-A PTA Principal's Student Service Award Recipients

10th Grade Recipients: Yolanda Barraza, Luz Elicea-Reyes and Aracili Gonzalez

11th Grade Recipients: Sonia Barrera, Nina Loshkajian, Diane Masket, Olmar Medina-Campos and Monika Mednick

In addition to Service Award winners listed above, the following deserve special mention: *Lisa McNamara, John McMurtry and Jan Reed*, who depart the PTA Executive Board after excellent contributions and years of work to benefit M-A; *Gloria Principe and LeeAnn Yasukawa* for their ongoing support to the M-A administration; *Alice Hom and Molly Eason* for helping the California Scholarship Federation organization; *Yumi Kelley* for keeping the PTA Display Case looking beautiful (check it out in Pride Hall); *Julie Brody, LeeAnn Yasukawa and Catherine McMillan* for keeping us all informed with weekly BearNotes emails; *Emily Liggett and Mary Murphy* for their eScrip fundraising efforts; *Marla Stark and Diane Jones* for their ELD tutoring work; *Cindie White and Amy Reardon* for co-chairing Senior Grad Night; *Leslie Mayerson* for bringing treats to all the PTA meetings; *Barb Windham* for Honor Roll Display; *Sonoo Thadaney-Israni* for help with the National Honor Society; *Pam Songer* for supporting the Outreach Club; *Charlene Margot and Sharon Bozzo* for organizing an excellent Parent Ed series; *Rosalie Cornew* for Spanish translation work throughout the school year; *Leslie Reblaender, Alice Hom, and Nancy Kessler* for their work on Student Award Night; *John McMurtry* for taking on the task of PTA webmaster; *Kristin Smith* for representing all parents at Site Council and SDMSC meetings; and *Kimberly Carlisle, Amy Reardon, Kathleen Balestra, Jane King, Becca Garcia, Nancy Ryde, Kelly Muenze, and Corby Locke* for producing the monthly Trivocis newsletter. Finally, this has been a particularly busy month for the Staff Appreciation team: *Lisa McNamara, Grayson Lane, and Ferah Kutlu* (and their team of volunteers). This group hosted a fun and delicious Teacher Appreciation Luncheon on May 17 (with special help from creative team *Noreen Carruthers and Yumi Kelley*).

Many thanks to all of these excellent volunteers, and those too numerous to list who volunteer throughout the year behind the scenes!

We know that next year the PTA will enjoy continued success with Co-Presidents Kathy Oppenheimer and Stephanie Nisbet at the helm. They will be supported by Co-Vice Presidents Brian LaPorte and Karen Fryling; Treasurer Jill Morgan; Financial Secretary Ora Chaiken; Auditor Jill Zanolli; Secretary Cathy Carlson; and Past Presidents Amy Boyle and Carol Orton (Parliamentarian).

Thank you for a memorable year!

Carol Orton and Amy Boyle
2010-2011 PTA Co-Presidents
president@mabearspta.org

De la PTA (Asociación de Padres de Familia, Maestros y Administradores...PTA)

Terminamos nuestro año escolar (y nuestro año como co-presidentas) con gratitud y agradecimiento a los numerosos voluntarios quienes han sido tan generosos con su tiempo y talentos. Una costumbre anual de M-A es el reconocimiento de los esfuerzos extraordinarios de voluntarios, tanto en la comunidad de familiares como dentro de los mismos estudiantes. Los recipientes del 2010-2011 PTA Service Awards y del 2010-2011 Principal's Student Service Awards son:

2010-2011 M-A PTA Adult Service Award Recipients

Continuing Service Award

Susanne Amato
Susan Mohr

PTA Service Award

Noreen Carruthers
Trish Gump
Laura Hale
Beth Henninger
Yumi Kelley

Community Service Award

Alice Hom

PTA President's Award

Amy Boyle
Carol Orton

Bear Farewells

Suzanne Amato
Kim Carlisle
Trish Gump
Laura Hale
Susan Mohr
Christina Peña
Amy Reardon
Kim Selby
Pam Stoner
Marla Stark
Barb Windham
Cindie White

2010-2011 M-A PTA Principal's Student Service Award Recipients

Recipientes del grado 10: Yolanda Barraza, Luz Elicea-Reyes y Aracili Gonzalez

Recipientes del grado 11: Sonia Barrera, Nina Loshkajian, Diane Masket, Olmar Medina-Campos y Monika Mednick

Además de los recipientes del Service Award mencionados anteriormente, las siguientes personas merecen un reconocimiento especial: *Lisa McNamara*, *John McMurtry* y *Jan Reed*, quienes dejan el PTA Executive Board después de haber hecho contribuciones excelentes y años de trabajo para beneficiar a M-A; *Gloria Principe* y *LeeAnn Yasukawa* por su ayuda continua a la administración de M-A; *Alice Hom* y *Molly Eason* por su ayuda con la organización de la California Scholarship Federation; *Yumi Kelley* por mantener la vitrina de PTA tan (véala Pride Hall); *Julie Brody*, *LeeAnn Yasukawa* y *Catherine McMillan* por mantenernos informados con los boletines semanales de BearNotes; *Emily Liggett* y *Mary Murphy* por sus esfuerzos de recaudación de fondos de eScrip; *Marla Stark* y *Diane Jones* por su trabajo con ELD tutoring; *Cindie White* y *Amy Reardon* por ser co-presidentes de Senior Grad Night; *Leslie Mayerson* por traer golosinas a todas las juntas de la PTA; *Barb Windham* por Honor Roll Display; *Sonoo Thadaney-Israni* por su ayuda con la National Honor Society; *Pam Songer* por su ayuda con el Outreach Club; *Charlene Margot* y *Sharon Bozzo* por organizar una serie excelente de conferencias para padres; *Rosalie Cornew* por su trabajo de traducción al español a través del año; *Leslie Reblaender*, *Alice Hom* y *Nancy Kessler* por su trabajo con Student Award Night; *John McMurtry* por aceptar el trabajo de PTA webmaster; *Kristin Smith* por representar a todos los padres en juntas de Site Council y SDMSC; y *Kimberly Carlisle*, *Amy Reardon*, *Kathleen Balestra*, *Jane King*, *Becca Garcia*, *Nancy Ryde*, *Kelly Muenzen* y *Corby Locke* por producir el boletín mensual Trivocis. Finalmente, este mes ha estado particularmente atareado para el equipo de Staff Appreciation: *Lisa McNamara*, *Grayson Lane* y *Ferah Kutlu* (y su equipo de voluntarios). Este grupo organizó un divertido y delicioso Teacher Appreciation Luncheon el 17 de mayo (con ayuda especial del equipo creativo *Noreen Carruthers* y *Yumi Kelley*).

Muchas gracias a todos estos excelentes voluntarios, y a aquellos, demasiados numerosos para mencionar aquí, quienes voluntarearon todo el año!

Sabemos que el año entrante la PTA continuará siendo exitosa bajo el liderazgo de Co-Presidentas Kathy Oppenheimer y Stephanie Nisbet. Tendrán el apoyo de Co-Vice presidentes Brian LaPorte y Karen Fryling; Tesorera Jill Morgan; Secretaria Financiera Ora Chaiken; Auditora Jill Zanolli; Secretaria Cathy Carlson; y Presidentas anteriores Amy Boyle y Carol Orton (Parliamentarias).

Gracias por un año inolvidable!

Amy Boyle y Carol Orton

2010-2011 Co-Presidentas de la PTA, president@mabearspta.org

Thanks to Our Caring Community...

...Our 2010-11 efforts have raised a total of **\$1,300,000**, up 22% from last year!

...Over **650 donors** have participated, including 13% more M-A families than last year!

... *M-A on eBay* earned a record-breaking **\$107,000!**

If you haven't made your annual gift, please visit www.mafoundation.org or mail a check to M-A Foundation for the Future, P.O. Box 1228, Menlo Park, CA 94026.

Our final Donor Roll is published in early fall.

The Challenge Ahead

Principal Matthew Zito is counting on the Foundation to provide **\$1,600,000 for the 2011-12 year** to fund essential programs, including two Guidance Counselors and a Student Support Coordinator, which would otherwise be eliminated due to cutbacks. We will need the support of every family—veterans and newcomers alike—to meet this critical goal.

A Warm Welcome, A Fond Farewell

For the 2011-12 year, the Foundation Board welcomes 16 new members: *Mark Balestra, Rosalie Cornew, Bob Crowe, Natalie Diller, Patrick Gordan, Tom Hayse, Sue Jagers, Brian LaPorte, Kim LeMieux, Artis Montague, Amy Paulsen, Susan Petersen, Paula Rash, Alys Smith, Lee Ann Yasukawa, and Mary Zarucchi*, who bring enthusiasm, energy and a wealth of experience. This crew must fill the shoes of 11 talented departing members: *John Boyle, Carol Collins, Gamiel Gran, Beth Harris, Keith Newman, Chris Rivera, Steve Smith, Angela Sherry, Kim Sommer, Susan Vaswani, and Lynne Young*. These dedicated parents have our deepest gratitude for many years of selfless service to M-A.

IT'S A GREAT DAY @ 

From the Guidance Office

By Silvia Torres-Garza, Head Guidance Counselor, Francine Andrade, Laura Duran, Karina Escobar-Weaver, Jason Kubo and Lara Sandora, Guidance Counselors

Summer School

Summer School will take place at Menlo-Atherton High School. Eligible students received a confirmation letter in May 2011.

For additional summer school options, please visit www.mabears.org; select Academics → Guidance Office Resources → Contents → Summer School Options.

- Students taking approved Concurrent Enrollment courses for acceleration must provide the Guidance Office with a transcript by **August 5, 2011**.

Concurrent Enrollment/Distance Learning

For information regarding Distance Learning or Concurrent Enrollment, please visit www.mabears.org; select Academics → Guidance Office Resources → Contents → Distance Learning.

Dates for classes at Cañada College and College of San Mateo are as follows:

Summer session begins on June 20, 2011, and fall classes begin on August 17, 2011. College schedules are available in the College and Career Center or online.

Information for the Class of 2012

- Seniors who need 10 credits of physical education (P.E.) as of August 2011 will be placed in a P.E. class for the 2011-12 academic year.

Safety Education - Students still needing to meet the Safety Education requirement have the following options to meet the requirement:

- Classroom at M-A
- On-Line (NovaNet, Phoenix, BYU)
- Off-Campus (College of San Mateo)

Students must see their Guidance Counselor for deadlines and registration information.

Secondary School Reports/Counselor Recommendation –

- Required for private or out of state colleges and/or universities only.
- Students must complete the Recommendation Request Packet available on Naviance. Go to www.mabears.org, click on the link to Naviance, log-in and click on “About Me” tab. The packet is in the document library on the right-hand side.
- Students need to submit their recommendation packets in person to their Guidance Counselor as early as possible and no later than the following deadlines:
 - Early Action/ Decision (letters due on or before 12/10/11): Tuesday, September 27, 2011.
 - Regular Decision (letters due after 12/10/11): Wednesday, November 2, 2011.

Finals

- Final schedule for seniors begins the week of May 23. Finals for students in grades 9 through 11 starts on May 27, 2011.
- Students should be aware of class deadlines, organize class materials, prioritize time for studying, get involved in study groups, and check-in with teachers as necessary.
- Please encourage and support your student in doing his or her best on final exams and project.

Class of 2015

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

Guidance Summer Office Hours

The Guidance Office will be open through June. Any requests or support you need from the Guidance Office needs to be completed no later than June 24, 2011. The office will be closed the month of July and will re-open on August 2, 2011.

Class of 2011

- All seniors attending two-year or four-year, in state or out of state, public or private colleges or universities must request an official final transcript from Menlo-Atherton no later than Friday, June 10th. Bring \$2, a stamped/addressed envelope, and the Final Transcript Request form to Mrs. Fran Huber.

We congratulate the Class of 2011 for their hard work and effort at Menlo-Atherton High School. We wish your student the best of luck in their future endeavors.

De La Oficina de Consejería

Por Silvia Torres-Garza, Encargada del Departamento de Consejería, Francine Andrade, Laura Duran, Karina Escobar-Weaver, Jason Kubo y Lara Sandora, Consejeras.

Escuela de Verano

La Escuela de Verano se llevará a cabo en la Escuela Menlo-Atherton. Los estudiantes elegibles recibieron una carta confirmando su inscripción en mayo del 2011.

Para opciones adicionales de escuela de verano, por favor visite www.mabears.org, seleccione "Academics" → "Guidance Office Resources" → "Contents" → "Summer School Options."

- Los estudiantes que toman clases aprobadas por medio del programa "Concurrent Enrollment" para acelerar deben que entregar un expediente académico a más tardar el **5 de agosto del 2011**.

Registración/Inscripción Simultánea (Concurrent Enrollment) / Aprendizaje a Distancia (Distance Learning)

Para información referente al programa Aprendizaje a Distancia ("Distance Learning") o Registración/Inscripción Simultánea ("Concurrent Enrollment"), por favor visite www.mabears.org, seleccione "Academics" → "Guidance Office Resources" → "Contents" → "Distance Learning."

Las fechas para clases en los colegios de Cañada y San Mateo son como sigue:

La sesión de verano empieza el 20 de junio, 2011 y las clases de otoño empiezan el 17 de agosto, 2011; los horarios de clase de los colegios están disponibles en la oficina de carreras o en el Internet.

Información para la Clase del 2012

- Los estudiantes del doceavo grado que necesitan 10 créditos de educación física en agosto del 2011 serán colocados en una clase de educación física durante el año académico 2011-12.

Educación de Seguridad – Estudiantes que aún necesitan completar los requerimientos de Educación de Seguridad tienen las siguientes opciones:

- Un curso en M-A
- Internet (NovaNET, Phoenix, Brigham Young University)
- Ciencias de Salud 100 en el Colegio de San Mateo

Los estudiantes pueden ver a sus consejeros para las fechas de vencimiento e información para inscripción.

Reporte de Escuela Preparatoria "Secondary School Report" (conocida como Recomendación de Consejero/a)

- Requerido solamente para Colegios/Universidades privados o fuera del estado.
- Los estudiantes deben completar el paquete de cartas de recomendación, el cual está disponible en "Naviance." Visite www.mabears.org, haga un clic en Naviance, entre al programa Naviance, y haga un clic en "About Me." El paquete está en la biblioteca de documentos en el lado derecho.
- **Los estudiantes necesitan someter sus paquetes de recomendación personalmente a su consejero/a lo más pronto posible y a más tardar en las siguientes fechas:**
 - **Para Decisión Temprana (para cartas con fecha de vencimiento el 10 de diciembre del 2011 o antes): martes, 27 de septiembre del 2011.**

- **Para Decisión Regular (para cartas con fecha de vencimiento después del 10 de diciembre del 2011): miércoles, 2 de noviembre del 2011.**

Exámenes Finales

- **El horario de los exámenes para los estudiantes del doceavo grado empieza la semana del 23 de mayo. Para los estudiantes del noveno al onceavo grado, los exámenes finales empiezan el 27 de mayo, 2011.**
- Los estudiantes deben de estar concientes de las fechas límite para sus clases, organizar los materiales de clase, hacer prioridades en su tiempo para estudiar, e involucrarse en grupos de estudio y hablar con sus maestros cuando sea necesario.
- Por favor anime y apoye a su estudiante en hacer el mejor esfuerzo en los exámenes y proyectos finales.

Clase del 2015: La oficina de consejería necesita una copia de su acta/partida de nacimiento o una copia de su pasaporte válido.

Horario de la oficina de Consejería durante el Verano: La oficina de Consejería estará abierta todo el mes de junio. Cualquier petición o apoyo que necesiten, deben solicitarla(lo) a más tardar el 24 de junio del 2011. La oficina de consejería estará cerrada durante el mes de julio y volverá a abrir el 2 de agosto del 2011.

Clase del 2011

- Todos los estudiantes del doceavo grado que asistirán a una universidad pública o privada de dos o cuatro años dentro o fuer de este estado, necesitan solicitar su expediente académico final a más tardar el viernes, 10 de junio del 2011. Traigan \$2.00, u sobre con la dirección de la universidad, y una estampilla, y el formulario “Final Transcript Request” a la señora Fran Huber.

Nuestras felicitaciones para la Clase del 2011 por todo el esfuerzo y fuerte trabajo que desempeñó aquí en la Escuela de Menlo-Atherton. Le deseamos a su estudiante la mejor de la suerte en todos sus futuros esfuerzos.

Mathematics

Graphing Calculators at Menlo-Atherton

by Gregg Whitnah, Math Department Chair

Graphing calculators are an integral part of math education at M-A. They are used in all classes beginning with Algebra II. Classes that use graphing calculators include Algebra II, AS Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, AP Statistics, Statistics, and AP Calculus AB/BC. 9th grade Geometry students use scientific calculators in the spring semester but some students get graphing calculators instead knowing they will need them for Algebra II. They are also allowed on the SAT I and SAT math subject test. The SAT I test is referred to as calculator neutral, meaning you can use a calculator if you wish but all problems are solvable without one. The other standardized tests including the SAT math subject test, AP Statistics, and AP Calculus (AB and BC) require graphing calculators. They are also allowed on almost all math contests.

The most versatile calculator to buy for M-A math classes are the TI 83+ and TI84 series. All teacher presentations will be made with TI equipment. Please do **not** buy other brands (CASIO and HP). The TI83+ and TI84's all perform well but there are differences in prices and functions. The TI83+ is what many students purchase. The TI84 offers three times the speed of the TI83+, an improved display, more RAM, and a USB port for students who want to transfer data between their calculator and computer. I would not buy a new or used TI83. TI86's are great but they do not do Statistics. TI89's will not be allowed on tests/quizzes at M-A.

Prices can vary tremendously depending on the store and the time of year. The most important information about pricing is they will always be considerably cheaper in the months of August and early September. Many stores such as Best Buy or Costco sell them at cost or below cost. The differences in prices can be as much as \$30 or \$40 in comparison to the rest of the year. I do not know what prices will be this upcoming August but last year the TI 83+ was as cheap as \$80 during this brief one-month window. The TI 84's will cost approximately \$20 to \$30 more than a TI83+. Some students buy their calculators through EBAY where you can pay as little as \$30 for a TI83+ or \$50 for a TI84.

If you are a low-income family, M-A does check out TI83's and T83+'s to students who cannot afford them.

If you do buy a TI graphing calculator on your own, please **save TI Technology Rewards symbol** which awards points for TI purchases. We can use these points for earning TI teacher presentation equipment. **Return your POINTS symbol to your son's or daughter's math teacher or Mr. Whitnah** in Room D20 or mail them to Mr. Whitnah at 555 Middlefield Rd, Atherton, 94027. Questions? Send them to gwhitnah@seq.org.

SAT Prep

Attention, parents of sophomores! The all-important and busy junior year will soon be upon your student. The parade of "must do's" starts with the PSAT in mid-October, and M-A's Own PSAT/SAT Prep already has a number of sign-ups from plan-well-ahead parents. The PSAT is aimed at juniors, and there is no actual need for a sophomore to take the PSAT: therefore, we give preference to juniors and wait-list sophomores. Those few seniors who have only lately decided they must take an SAT are also given preference since their case is pressing, and the PSAT training is the only way they can approach this in the fall.

We are non-profit and have no source of funding other than the fees we charge. Our basic fee is \$100, for which we need a minimum of 20 students. The highest fee, charged only once in the 30 years we have been doing this at M-A, is \$225, which is only \$15 a tutoring hour, a real bargain. The actual charge (almost always \$100 in the fall) ranges between these two figures and depends on the enrollment. Once a student is seated in the class the first day, the parents are responsible for the fee. The charge includes all material necessary for this five-week course, which takes place on Mondays and Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m., on campus. It concludes the week the PSAT is given, so that the student is fully primed. Our 30-year record proves we do the job properly, so all we need is a willing student who will be punctual, attend every session, and do the very small amount of homework we give so that the student can participate in class appropriately.

To ask your questions and/or to enroll your student, call Jane King at 650-323-4066 or email jccking@juno.com. If your student has a fall sport, we certainly need to talk about options.

Remember our motto: "As good as the best and better than all the rest."

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The M-A's Own PSAT/SAT Prep office will be closed from July 28 through August 16. You may email, but no reply will be forthcoming until after August 16.

Jane King, Director



WANTED: Old computers or parts, working or not. We will securely erase your old computer, reload it with software, and send it home with a hard-working, deserving student. Our goal is for every student to have access to a working computer at home. If you have one computer to donate, or a truckload, or if your family needs computer repair, or a donated computer, please contact Sue Kayton, (650)853-1711, kayton@alum.mit.edu. Se habla espanol.

AYUDA CON COMPUTADORAS: Queremos que cada familia tenga una computadora en casa. Podemos ayudarse. Si tienen una computadora descompuesta, o si faltan programas, o si tiene un virus, o si no hay ninguna computadora en cada, llama a Susana Kayton (650)853-1711, para pedir ayuda gratis.

Looking for the perfect graduation gift? Order a brick for your graduating senior and give him/her a gift that will last forever! Personalized bricks are installed in the Alumni Patio on campus near the PAC. Visit <http://alumnitileorderform.yolasite.com/> for more information and to place your order today.



Adolescent Counseling Services

Letting Go

Roni Gillenson, MFT, On Campus Counseling Program Director

“You’re not going to school looking like that, are you?” I asked my daughter. She planted her feet, ‘I was planning on it!’ she said. The conversation didn’t get any better. I was so upset with my daughter. But what was bothering me? Was it really her choice of dress?

“Sure it was, I thought. But was it really? As I sat and remembered back to when she was a little girl, I remembered putting ribbons in her hair, helping to get her dressed for school. What I really missed was my little girl. She was growing up.”

That story from Sue Monk Kidd in *Firstlight* resonates with us as our children start becoming their own person. Isn’t that a good thing? Isn’t that what we are trying to achieve – personhood for our children? It comes at a small cost. We lose a little as they grow up, but we gain a lot. It is hard to realize when it is happening that it is a good thing. We can only understand that at a later point.

Letting go is a “catch-22.” We love our children and are attached to them. That attachment is necessary for their healthy growth. But when we begin to “detach,” to let them go, it feels like a little loss. We have these little losses *because* we are attached. The alternative is not good – to not ever be attached! We wouldn’t choose that path. So we let go . . . and amazing things happen.

When we allow it to happen, our children *do* find their path and are able to feel the pride that comes with it. It happens when we let go and allow them to use their own abilities to move forward. We have given them the tools to make their way in the world. We have provided a firm foundation in the early years. They have what it takes to move forward.

Adolescent Counseling Services is a community non-profit which provides vital counseling services on eight 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 Dr. Christina Walker, Site Director at MA (650) 322-5311 ext. 5186. 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!

Thank you to the following foundations that supported ACS’ On-Campus Counseling Program during the 2010-2011 school year: *The Altos Foundation, Atkinson Foundation, In-N-Out Burger Foundation, Laurel Foundation, Palo Alto Community Fund, Palo Alto Medical Foundation, Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund, Rotary Club of Palo Alto, Sand Hill Foundation, The Nick Traina Foundation, and the WD Foundation.*

ATTENTION INCOMING FRESHMAN FAMILIES!

Don’t miss out this summer on important announcements about Arena Check-In and the start of school! Subscribe now to BearNotes, the weekly M-A PTA newsletter delivered electronically each Sunday evening to your in-box. Follow this link (www.mabearspta.org) to subscribe and click on the “Join our BearNotes List” button.

Athletics

Oh, What a Year!



What an exciting year 2010-2011 has been for M-A Athletics! Congratulations to the girls' water polo team for capturing the CCS Championship title in the fall. Kudos also to all the teams who advanced to CCS play-offs this year. All fall sports teams advanced to post season play as did most of the winter and spring teams. M-A can proudly boast over 700 student athletes, more than half of whom play more than one sport.

Boosters has also had an exciting year. Since its inception in 2003, M-A's Athletic Boosters has collected and granted a whopping \$455,753 to our sports teams. In its very first year, Boosters granted \$12,000 to the athletics program. This year that amount topped \$79,000. Because of your generous donations, 13 coaching stipends were paid by Boosters this year along with the purchase of new uniforms, equipment, and training supplies. We can't stress enough the importance of donating not only to your student's teams, but also to Boosters. Without Boosters' assistance, most of our teams could never individually raise enough money to support their needs.

The Big Bear Run is the largest source of revenue for Athletic Boosters. This year's 6th annual event was the best ever. Thanks to Kathleen Balestra and Diana Holliday for taking on the herculean task once again whose efforts were greatly rewarded. We had record registrations and a record turnout for one of the most beautiful mornings this spring. Please mark your calendars to join us for this great community event next year, slated for Sunday, May 6, 2012.

M-A has a strong tradition of athletes continuing their athletic careers in college and this year is no exception. We applaud all of the student athletes who will participate at the college level. We have attempted to compile a list of those students and we apologize in advance for anyone we have inadvertently omitted. Best wishes for continued success to the following athletes: Diane Seeley (Colgate-volleyball), Regina Mullen (Claremont-McKenna-volleyball), Paige Keating (Ole Miss-tennis), Emily Dorst (Stanford-water polo), Spencer Berry (Chapman-cross country), Nick Henze (Boston College-swimming), Kai Masuda (Harvard-swimming), Graham McClelland (UC Irvine- water polo), MJ O'Neill (UC Irvine-water polo), Tommy Selby (UC Berkeley-Diving) and Kenta Muraoka (Seattle University-track and field/pole vaulting).

Are You Ready for Some M-A Football?

Plans for the 2011 football season are underway! The summer and game schedule, important dates and sign-up information are all available on our website <http://menloathertonfootball.com>. Summer workouts begin June 13th.

For the first time in M-A history, our Bears will be playing their season under the lights on Coach Parks Field!

All current players must complete the clearance process by May 20th. The Athletic Packet is available on our web site and PAL stickers are now available for purchase. Low-cost physicals are available at BAK on May 19th and 24th. Questions? Please see the web site or contact Coach Sione Taufouu at staufouu@Riekes.org or Susan Mohr at SMDMohr@aol.com.

Get Ready for Fall Sports!

All athletes are required to complete an athletic clearance packet before being allowed to participate in practices or games. The packet can be downloaded at www.mabears.org under the athletics tab. The AVP office will be open on Monday 07/25/11 and Tuesday, 7/26/11 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. for athletic eligibility clearance. Low cost physicals will be available at BAK on May 19th and 24th beginning at 6pm on both dates.

We wish you a restful and blessed summer, and we look forward to seeing you back in the stands and on the playing fields at M-A. Go Bears!

*By Di Gow and Beth Henninger
M-A Athletic Boosters co-chairs*



Thank you from your 2011 Big Bear Run Co-Chairs, Kathleen Balestra and Diana Holliday!

Big Bear hugs to all the fabulous runners, walkers, volunteers and sponsors who helped make the 6th Annual Big Bear Run held on Sunday, May 1, a great success! This was the biggest race ever with over 1,000 runners who came out to support M-A Athletics. The M-A Boosters raised over \$85,000 for grants to M-A's 52 athletic teams for critically needed uniforms, basic equipment, and coaching stipends for our approximately 1,000 committed student-athletes.

Congratulations to the fastest male and female M-A Bears, junior Jordan Scandlyn and freshman Taylor Fortnam. Check out the race results and Big Bear Run pictures on the M-A Boosters website at www.m-aboosters.org or www.buzzwordproductions.com. Did you miss out on acquiring a fantastic 2011 Big Bear Run t-shirt? Limited quantities are available for \$10. Please e-mail Beth Henninger at bethhenninger@yahoo.com. Thank you for the donations of gently used athletic shoes which the M-A One Club will now supply to those in need.

The race could not have taken place without the help of so many wonderful volunteers. The Big Bear Run Committee oversaw all the details such as food, logistics, t-shirts, sponsors, publicity, and race planning. Thank you to committee members Candi Athens, Michelle Bercow, Alison Blank, Rebecca Bloom, Gail Blumberg, Jeff Child, Michele Culhane, Di Gow, Dana Hayse, Beth Henninger, Nancy Kessler, Liz King, Corby Locke, Nancy McMahon, Alys Smith and Lee Ann Yasukawa. An additional 75 parents, students, and friends came out on race day to help with set up, registration, food and water, marking the course and cheering on the runners. Thank you to seniors Celia Walker and Sulia Teu for their inspiring singing of the *Star Spangled Banner*, Spencer Gump as the M-A Bear, Mary Podesta as our Race Rabbit, Vice-Principal Lippi for the race start, Mark Culhane as the race commentator, Sam Hausman for the lively race interviews, the M-A cheerleaders for their wonderful school spirit, Mark Balestra, Brendy and John Hale for the great race photos and Athens Chiropractic Clinic for race warm-ups. Thank you to the Atherton Police Department and the Menlo Park Fire Department for helping to keep us all safe. Thank you to the M-A neighbors for accommodating our race so graciously! Thank you to Cedro Ristorante Italiano who helped us prepare the healthy fruit provided at the end of the race, Hobe's California Restaurants for the delicious coffee cake, Liz King for designing the beloved Big Bear Run t-shirts, Fleet Feet Sports for our race bibs, and Occasions, etc. for our trophies and medals. A special thanks to Roger Inman of Interweave Production Group for providing the superb sound system and festive music. Lastly, a yummy thanks to The Mix yogurt shop on the Alameda for providing gift certificates to all the award recipients.

Save the date for the 7th Annual Big Bear Run on Sunday, May 6, 2012.

And finally to our fantastic sponsors – we could absolutely not have reached our goal without you!

Platinum Sponsors: DemandTec; Intuit

Gold Sponsors: Anonymous; 24 Lost Soles; Brody; Falkenhagen; McMurtry; Merrill Corporation.; Mark & Mary Stevens

Silver Sponsors: Anonymous; Athens Chiropractic; Bohannon Foundation; Carruthers; Cogan/Allen; Coggins; Culhane; Diller; Fornaciari; GGV Capital; Kessler; KPCB; La Plante; Nisbet; E&J Olson; Pearson Buick-GMC; Rector Porsche Audi; Skidmore; Z Fund/Wentz.

Bronze Sponsors: Anonymous; Ash Family Trust; Bartlett; J Chen; David; Edwards Luggage; Gow; Hale; Harpell; Hayse; Henninger; Holliday; Hooper; L&T King; Long; K&J Mitchell; NASDAQ OMX; Orton; Revitalize Integrated Body Systems (RIBS); Rice; Roberts; Rosenthal; SimpleFeed Inc.; Stoner; Sunshine; Susanna Tang, Financial Advisor; Team Sheep; Vitale

Family Sponsors: Anonymous; Aguilar; Alain Pinel Realtors-Menlo Park; Amato; Ana Williamson Architecture; S&C Arrington; T&T Arrington; Balestra; Bassin; Beckwith; M&D Bercow; Berserkers Wrestling Club; Black; R&J Bloom; Branning; Brian; Caryotakis; M&A Chan; N Child; L&A Cohen; Collom/Stark; Davis/Kite; Deal; Dettmer; Dorst; Eason; First Republic Bank; Freed; Grose; Harney/Cabral; Heydari/Amiri; Higgitt; Hume; LaPorte; Lombardi; Mack/Mulligan; Marianacci; Mayerson; McCabe; Mohr; Morris/Gates; O'Farrell; Olsen/Yasukawa; Oro; J&K Perez; Perkins/Makino; Pinkston; Ramleth; Rogers; Roellig; Schertler/Reynolds; Scheuch; Sebes/Coll; Shaffer/Locke; Shepard; Shimbo; A&B Smith; Songer; Sontag; Stanek; Swartz; Sylvester/Jackson; Tasch; Tedesco; Tobias Physical Therapy; Uphoff; Vaswani; The Willows Market; Windham; Young/Moragne

In-Kind Donors: AIA/Eagle Marketing; Atherton Police; Cedro Ristorante Italiano; Fleet Feet Sports; Hobe's California Restaurants; Jeffrey's Hamburgers; JP Digital Imaging; Liz King Design; Roger Inman of Interweave Production Group; Occasions, etc.

Grad Night? Party On!

Congratulations to all graduating seniors! For those of you who registered for the Grad Night Party and are planning to party on, here are a few things to know before you go:

Recommended attire for Grad Night:

- Comfortable clothes. Remember, you will be wearing them all night!
- Jacket or sweater.

What you will need to bring to Grad Night:

- Your student ID.

You should not bring:

- Money (There will be nothing to buy).
- iPods, iPads, or any other brand of electronic devices (cell phones okay).
- Yearbook (No one will want to carry it around all night).
- Large bags. (A very small purse or clutch is okay)
- Food/Drink (Plenty of food and drink will be provided at the party).
- **Alcohol, cigarettes, drugs are absolutely prohibited.** (If any student arrives at check-in under the influence, he/she will not be allowed to attend Grad Night. Parents will be called and asked to pick up the student).

Check-in and return times:

- Meet at the New Gym on Thursday, June 2 at 7:45 p.m. Buses will be leaving soon afterwards, so don't be late!
- The buses will return to M-A at 3:30 a.m. on June 3.
- Parking on campus is available, but there will be no parking control at M-A so it is not recommended that you leave your car on campus overnight.

Ask questions or check for last minute messages on Facebook by joining the group called, "M-A Grad Night 2011 Information" (or email: gradnight2011@mabearspta.org).

HAVE FUN and ENJOY YOUR SPECIAL DAY!

A very special thank you to Barb Windham, Betsy Cuisinot, and Teri O'Neel for their enormous contribution to the success of Grad Night Party 2011!!!

Barb Windham is fabulously chairing the Check-In portion of this event. It is an enormous logistical undertaking to develop and implement a system for 300 M-A grads that will verify identification, screen for unwanted items, orchestrate sub-groups, and load buses. This process requires 48 volunteers, two sections of the gym, a lot of pre-planning, and consummate organizational skills!

Betsy Cuisinot is taking the Grad Night Party pulse round the clock, as she collects and processes forms and checks, verifies information, inputs a TON of data into an enormous spreadsheet that is used event planning and execution purposes. Without all daily totals and feedback, event planning and logistics would be impossible!

Teri O'Neel is in charge of recruiting chaperons for Grad Night - which is no easy job. After all, how would you like to be in charge of policing 300 18 year olds ALL NIGHT? Teri has been relentlessly working on this project since January, finding us the most qualified and optimistic chaperons possible, many from a local church!

MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION DVD

Menlo-Atherton High School is partnering with gradmemory.com to provide a professional video of the 2011 Graduation Ceremony on June 2.

This PERFECT GRADUATION GIFT is now available to **order at a special sale price of \$30.00** until June 3, 2011, after which the price is subject to increase by \$5.00. Taxes, shipping, and handling are additional.

The Graduation ceremony will be shot with **two high definition video cameras** and for the very first time DVD package can be **PERSONALIZED** with the graduate's 'Name' and 'Picture'.

To Order - Visit www.gradmemory.com or fill out this form and send it directly to GradMemory, our official video production team.

Questions – Email: support@gradmemory.com or Call: 866-977-4723.

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Menlo-Atherton High School Official Graduation DVD 2011 **PRE-ORDER FOR \$30 and SAVE \$5**

Offer Ends: **June 2nd, 2011**

Features:

- DVD Personalized with your name and picture
- Degree Conferral to all students
- Keynotes and Speeches
- Copyright Protected



Two Options to Order

option 1

- Go to www.gradmemory.com
- Please have your picture ready to personalize your DVD

option 2

- Complete the form below
- Tear and mail back to address: **40087 Mission Blvd, Suite 236, Fremont, CA 94539**
- You can also e-mail/fax the form
- We will email you a gift code with instructions after receiving your payment. You will use this gift code to personalize the DVD on our website.

* For questions or concerns please e-mail us at support@gradmemory.com or call 866-977-GRAD

----- Detach Here -----

Name Phone

E-mail address

Check enclosed (payable to GradMemory)

Pay with Credit Card Exp CVC

Card Number

Visa Mastercard American Express Discover

1 DVD: **\$30**

CA Taxes, Shipping & Handling - **\$7**

Quantity x **\$37** = \$

If ordered after June 2nd, 2011:

Quantity x **\$42** = \$



GradMemory

www.gradmemory.com | support@gradmemory.com | 866-977-GRAD
Fax 866-536-0639 | 40087 Mission Blvd Suite 236, Fremont CA 94539

Visual and Performing Arts

Best of Annual Art Show

A huge thank you to the folks at The Great Frame Up in Menlo Park for another year of support for our talented artists, the annual show was again a success for all participants. All participants received certificates and the following students were awarded with cash prizes!

3-D

Beginning Artist:

- 1st Place – Amy Young (senior) - \$100
- 2nd Place – Kitty Carruthers (sophomore) - \$50

Intermediate Artist:

- 1st Place – Biridiana Leyva Garcia (junior) - \$100
- 2nd Place – Quelera Qua Qua - \$50

Advanced Artist:

- 1st Place – Graham McClelland (senior) - \$100

2-D

Beginning Artist:

- 1st Place – Sean McBirney (sophomore) - \$100
- 2nd Place – Suzie McMurtry \$50
- Honorable Mention – Jonathan Rivas (senior)

Intermediate Artist:

- 1st Place – Gaby Nighan (sophomore) - \$100
- 2nd Place – Ali Gaffney (junior) - \$50
- Honorable Mention – Matthew Schertler

Advanced Artist:

- 1st Place – Sofia Gutierrez-Dewar (senior) - \$100
- 2nd Place – Maria Ikonomou (junior) - \$50
- Honorable Mention – Sofi King

Thank you, also, to Roger Choplin for his gift to the winner of the Battle Of The Bands, offering four hours in the studio plus his mixing time to make two to three songs.

The Visual and Performing Arts at Menlo-Atherton would like to express our gratitude to the community for the ongoing support in all aspects. It has been a successful year with new staff, great performances, increased collaboration, and positive growth, all with the enrichment of our students and community in mind.

Upcoming Events: May/June 2011

May 19 – 24: Administration Foyer: Artist Bird House Auction.

Don't miss it! Support both your local arts and wildlife.

June 2: Graduation at Coach Parks Field.

Keep your ears open for M-A's choral students.

Adult Volunteers needed For Freshman Challenge Day:

October 24 & 25, 2011

Challenge Day is coming to M-A for its eighth year, and we need your help! This freshman event, which kicks off our year-long “Be the Change” program, is sponsored by the M-A PTA with support from the principal, teachers, and administrative staff. The incoming freshman class will participate in this lifetime experience. Our goal is that at the end of the day, students will not only have bonded as a class, but also will have torn down old stereotypes and become inspired to live, study, and work in an environment of compassion, acceptance, and respect.

Since 1987, the Challenge Day programs have touched the lives of over half a million teens nationwide. In fact, Challenge Day is the subject of the popular TV series, “If You Really Knew Me,” and was featured on the Oprah show, in the book Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul, and in the Emmy Award-winning documentary *Teen Files: Surviving High School*.

Challenge Day is a powerful, high-energy program in which youth and adult participants are guided through a series of experiential learning activities. The overall goals of the program are to increase personal power and self-esteem; to shift negative peer pressure to positive peer support; and to eliminate the acceptability of teasing, violence, and all forms of oppression. The Challenge Day programs are designed to unite the members of the school and to empower them to carry the themes of the program back to the greater school population. And it works! In the poignant words of a past parent volunteer and small group facilitator, “I do believe that each time they see each other, it will remind them that they are not

alone in their difficulties. I saw repeatedly throughout the day students realizing they are not the only one with various struggles. Then I saw their peers reaching out to assist.”

Adult participation is crucial to the success of these two days! The freshman class will be divided so that half attend each day, and we are looking for over 150 adult volunteers to help with this event. You can volunteer either Monday, October 24, or Tuesday, October 25. Volunteer positions include small group facilitators for 4-5 students (8:15 am - 3:30 pm), registration (8:00 am - 9:15 am), or lunch server (11:00 am – 1:00 pm). Everyone is welcome, whether you are the parent of a freshman or an upper-classman.

As you are making your volunteer plans for the school year, please take the time to consider making a real difference in the lives of our M-A teens in this awesome way. As previous participants, we can promise you that you, too, will walk away a changed individual. **To volunteer for any of these positions, please email us, specifying the position and time for which you wish to volunteer: Lisa Deal and Ellen Mouchawar, PTA Co-Chairs of Challenge Day 2011, at challengeday@mabearspta.org.**

M-A Media Center

Summer Opportunities at the Media Center!

Limited spots are still available for Digiquest Summer Workshops at the Media Center. Our week-long summer camps are a great way to expand your student's passion for filmmaking and television production. For a program schedule and registration information, please visit www.midpenmedia.org/digiquest or contact brad@midpenmedia.org. Discounts are available for multiple registrations.

Media Center Building Youth Sports Crew

The Media Center is currently organizing a youth sports crew for broadcasting high school sporting events in the fall of 2011. Students on the crew will operate cameras, run audio, direct, and even offer commentary on live television! This will be a great opportunity for youth interested in sports broadcasting and looking to gain hands-on experience in this field under the supervision of experienced professionals. Applications will be available during the summer, and crew selection and training will begin in August. To have your email added to our list for updates about this program, email brad@midpenmedia.org.

Musical Notes



It's been a busy spring for the M-A Bands. In February, all three jazz bands performed in the Santa Cruz Jazz Festival. In March, Concert Band and Advanced Jazz Band performed with the LA Entrada and Hillview Middle School Bands for the annual combined concert in the PAC. New this year was inclusion of the Hillview Strings, breaking ground for rebirth of M-A's Orchestra next year. In April, the Advanced Jazz Band took their act to Reno, and in May all four bands performed at Kepler's for the annual Kepler's Day on the Plaza and in the PAC for the Spring Band Concert. May also finds the concert band and advanced jazz band on their way to Anaheim to participate in the Anaheim Heritage Festival. The final chance to hear the Advanced Jazz Band perform this year will be at the annual Nativity Carnival on Saturday, June 11th.

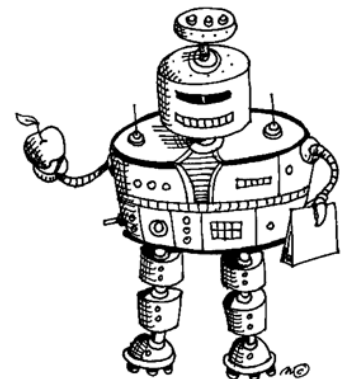
The bands have been very lucky this year to have Kent Kurrus as the Director. Last year, the retirement of Frank Moura after so many years left some huge shoes to fill, and Kent has done an amazing job building on the bands' strengths and continuing the legacy of excellent musicianship at M-A. As always, the bands require a great deal of support from all the parents whose students are involved. There are plenty of volunteer positions available for next fall! Contact Laura Hale at Laurabethp@aol.com if you are interested in working with the band boosters.

Laura Hale

M-A Robotics

The M-A Robotics Team – FIRST team 766 – finished up their season by participating in the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) 20th Annual Championships in St. Louis. This is the first time in five years that our robotics team has been invited to Championships.

The M-A Robotics Team was invited to attend the Championships when the Bears won the Sacramento Regional at UC Davis in March as part of a three-team alliance. During this two-day competition, M-A competed against 53 other high school robotics teams. The Bears showcased their talents and good sportsmanship by racking up points and working to ensure the alliance teammates were equally successful. For the finals, the



Bears were part of an alliance with the Space Cookies and Citrus Circuits which scored a weekend high of 99 points in one quarter-final match and won the finals.

Two weeks later, at the Silicon Valley Regional at San Jose State University, the M-A Bears successfully made it all the way to the quarter-finals, ending up in an alliance including the Wildhats, the Woodside/Carlmont/Sequoia Robotics team, against many other regional winning teams, but fell just short of moving on to the semi-finals.

In late April, 14 members of the M-A Bears Robotic Team traveled to St. Louis. They competed for three days in 10 qualifying matches against the best 350 teams out of the thousands of FRC teams from countries including the United States, Mexico, Canada, Israel, and Australia. The M-A robot showed remarkable consistency and tenacity during these exciting competitions, and showed a talent for scoring, sometimes 60 plus points on its own thanks to an effective claw and a minibot able to go up a 10 foot pole in just 1.2 seconds. The Bears, unfortunately, just fell short of making the finals. However, the Championships were a wonderful experience filled with fun events such as a FIRST-only Black Eyed Peas concert and a chance to both teach and learn from other FRC teams.

The M-A Robotics team is looking forward to another chance to compete with this year's robot at the 2011 Calgames and the discovery of the challenge for the 2012 FRC Season. Congratulations to M-A Robotics, Team 766 on a successful year, and best of luck in the future! If you are interested in learning more or participating in the M-A Robotics Team, please contact Robotics766@gmail.com or speak to Mr. Decurtins.

Leadership & Other Student Activities

Now that spring 2011 is over, what is going on now?

What do you do now that the year is almost over? Check out the M-A events calendar at www.mabears.org to see what is up for next year!

Student Leadership will be merging into two classes but will still offer something for everyone. Whether you are looking to join a club, get involved in spirit activities or just wondering what events are coming up stop by B-21, the Leadership room, to see what is going on. We have a spirited group of leaders excited to lead the charge. August will be just the beginning to a great year for the Menlo-Atherton family.

Remember.....don't hide your Bear Pride. See you in the fall!

GO BEARS!!!!

News from 4th Period Spirit Leadership

This past quarter the 4th period leadership class has worked to offer the student body chances to become involved in the Menlo-Atherton community.

The Class of 2011, our current seniors, hosted a successful Prom at the Gift Center in San Francisco and brought in an impressive profit. They also hosted Super Senior Monday during which they began signing up for graduation photos, received their caps and gowns, and began purchasing tickets for Senior Week. During Senior Week, the Class of 2011 will participate in a number of unifying senior activities to celebrate their graduation on June 2nd.

The Class of 2012 also put on numerous events to benefit the students, teachers, and the community. The first week of May was Teacher Appreciation week, during which the juniors hosted a lovely dessert buffet for the staff, and wrote personalized letters to each and every staff member thanking them for their dedication and hard work. They also hosted several fundraisers such as two Amici's Nights and a car wash.

The Class of 2013 hosted M-A's first ever Spring Service Festival during lunch on May 6th. Local community service organizations such as My New Red Shoes, Atherton 2020, Abilities United, Boys and Girls Club, Habitat for Humanity, Second Harvest, and Project Read were all presented, and students had the opportunity to learn about giving back to the community.

We are now looking back on this year with warmth and looking forward to a fabulous 2011-2012 school year.

Freshman Transition and Leadership

A message to New Bears, The Class of 2015

Plans are already well underway to welcome next year's new M-A Bears, the Class of 2015. The Freshman Transition student leaders in cooperation with members of the Leadership class have been working hard to ensure that incoming Class of 2015 and their families feel welcomed and supported throughout their first year of high school at Menlo-Atherton.

The Freshman Transition program at M-A presents a unique opportunity for 9th grade students to work with upperclassmen leaders and assimilate into the high school environment. Throughout the first semester, student leaders visit classrooms to work with our youngest Bears, promoting communication, offering advice, and answering questions.

Experience has shown that peer leadership is the most effective way to create a school environment in which all students feel accepted and included.

The Freshman Transition program is composed of 90 student leaders and is dedicated to supporting new students. This year Leadership will be hosting Freshman Orientation on **Tuesday, August 23, from 8:00-9:30 a.m. in the Gymnasium.**

Along with the Freshman Transition program, the M-A PTA supports Challenge Day for every freshman student. This program is a one-day workshop that promotes compassion, communication and community building within a school. 9th graders and Challenge Day volunteers work-together to increase awareness of differences, and to build alliances and acceptance among students of diverse racial and cultural backgrounds. The success of this program has increased student bonding, improved communication, and encouraged classroom participation.

In recent years, the M-A PTA has recognized the importance of embracing freshman students and their families. The Freshman Transition program, Leadership Classes and Challenge Day are all programs that have had a positive impact on the social and academic environment at M-A. Menlo-Atherton is committed to continued work to build alliances and community spirit among its students and families

Welcome to M-A! We are excited for our new Bears to arrive at school. See you all at Freshman Orientation.

WELCOME NEW BEARS CLASS OF 2015!

Menlo-Atherton is so excited to welcome our newest Bears, the Class of 2015, to our campus. We will be hosting **Freshman Orientation on Tuesday, August 23** from 8:00-9:30 a.m. in Ayer's Gym. This will allow all of our freshmen to unite as a class as well as join the M-A community in a positive way. They will find out that there are tons of opportunities awaiting them at M-A....something for everyone. At the same time, our Foundation for the Future will be hosting a parent coffee for parents of the Class of 2015.

Get a jump on purchasing Bear Wear at Arena Check In on Wednesday, August 17 from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Check out just a few pieces of what we have to offer in the Student Store or log on to Prep Sportswear at <http://www.prepsportswear.com/>.

M-A receives 10% of all sales.

For more information on all Menlo-Atherton events, please check out our website at www.mabears.org.

Welcome to the M-A family!!!

M-A Students 1st Place Winner in State Competition

By Lindsay Keare

Behavior Change or Climate Change, a students-teaching-students environmental group at M-A, recently won first place and a \$2000 prize in the Climate Generation Program, a statewide competition for youth environmentalists.

On May 25, at 9 a.m. in the PAC Cafeteria during the Principal's Awards Ceremony, the group will be recognized for its accomplishments by both the school and local media. The ceremony will also recognize junior and group member Missy Lees, who won an individual "Climate Champion" award for her contributions to the program.

A press release by the California Environmental Protection Agency Air Resources Board applauded the M-A group for creation and implementation of its set of classroom presentations, which both teach students about climate changes and provide students with the necessary tools to make positive environmental behavior changes.

In the three years of its existence, Behavior Change or Climate Change has taught over 500 M-A students in all grade levels about the science behind climate change and how the appliances they use, modes of transportation they utilize, and the foods they eat affect the environment. The curriculum also educates students about changes they can make in their lives in order to reduce their carbon footprint. Through grants from the PTA, the program provided the majority of students with "Behavior Change" kits, which included tire gauges, reusable water bottles, shower timers, power strips, and other useful items to help kids adopt environmentally friendly habits.

The group presented its finding on the effects of the program on students' behavior at the Behavior Energy Climate Change (BECC) Conference in Sacramento in the fall, where it was the only high school group in attendance.

Behavior Change or Climate Change members are seniors Julia Sommer, Jenny Chute, and Bill Thomsen and juniors Sara Orton, Kendall Songer, Alan Propp, Mary Kenney, Selin Kutlu, Emily Gran, Danielle Flanagan, Lindsay Keare, and Missy Lees who are mentored by June Flora, Carol Orton, and Matt Sharpe.

Students interested in joining the program should contact June Flora at j.flora@sitia.org.

From Your Articles Editor.....

With this issue, I bid farewell to the M-A community as my daughter, Hallee Foster, is graduating. My life before my son Reed Foster (Class of 2010) entered M-A and I began the monthly ritual of compiling and editing your enthusiastic and well-written words about the many facets of M-A and its activities is difficult to remember. I do know that on every issue I worked and at every activity I attended throughout these five years, from Basketball to Swimming, from Challenge Day to the Fashion Show, I have been moved by our community's commitment to individual opportunity and expression. From its strong leadership, to its passionate teachers and coaches, to its creative and ambitious parents, and, most of all to the students who inspire me to say to everyone I meet – spend time with our teens today and you will not worry about our world tomorrow – bon voyage, M-A!

Kimberly Carlisle

Trivocis Calendar – June 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 30 Memorial Day – No school	May 31 Finals schedule (non-seniors) – Periods 0 and 1; 8:45-1:00 pm Senior Picnic; 8:00-2:00; Blackberry Farms Senior Awards Night; 7:00 pm; M-A PAC	June 1 Finals schedule (non-seniors) – Periods 2 and 3; 8:45-1:00 pm Senior Breakfast and Graduation practice; 9:00-12:30; New Gym and Coach Parks Field	2 Last day of school Finals schedule (non-seniors) – Periods 4 and 5; 8:45-1:00 pm Graduation Ceremony – Class of 2011; 4:00 pm; Coach Parks Field Grad Night Party – Class of 2011; 7:45-3:30 am; New Gym	3	4 SAT Test; 8:00 am
6	7	8 Summer trip to Guatamala through June 22 (psnow@seq.org) SUHSD Board meeting	9	10 Last day for senior transcripts request for college admission	11 ACT Test, 8:00 am
13	14 Summer school session #1 begins through July 1	15	16	17	18
20	21	22 SUHSD Board meeting	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	July 1 Summer school session #1 ends	2

Future Events

July 5- July 22 - Summer session #2

July 25 & July 26; Special athletic clearance processing; office open; 10:00 – 2:00 pm

August 1 – Arena Check-In on-line begins

August 2 – School office opens

August 5 – Deadline for approved concurrent enrollment courses transcripts to Guidance Office

August 12 – First day of Fall athletic practices

August 15 – September Trivocis article deadline

August 17 – Arena Check-in for 9th & 12th grades; 1:00-5:00 pm, New Gym

August 18 – Arena Check-in for 10th & 11th grades; 8:00-noon, New Gym

August 23 – Freshman Orientation; 8:00-9:30 am; Ayers Gym

August 23 – Freshman Parent coffee; 8:00-10:00 am, M-A PAC Cafe

August 25 – First day of school for 2011-2012 and schedule distribution

The most current information about M-A events is available on the **M-A Bears website, www.mabears.org** and the **M-A PTA website, www.mabearspta.org**. Submit calendar entries by email to trivociscalendar@mabearspta.org.

Menlo-Atherton High School PTA
PTA, 17th Dist. CA.
Congress of Parents & Teachers
555 Middlefield Rd.
Atherton, CA 94027

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Articles Editor: Kim Carlisle
Production Editor: Amy Reardon
Calendar Editor: Kathleen Balestra
Mailing: Kelly Muenzen, Nancy Ryde, Corby Locke
Proofreaders: Jane King, Becca Garcia

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

This issue was mailed and a PDF version posted online at www.mabearspta.org on May 25, 2011.

All M-A families with an email address on file will receive an email link to Trivocis each month. Families without email will receive a hard copy via U.S. Mail.

FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

Supporting Excellence in Education

MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL

Welcome Class of 2015 Families!

The Foundation for the Future invites you to attend our annual

Freshman Parent Coffee

Tuesday, August 23th

8 – 10 AM

Performing Arts Center Café

Drop your child off for Freshman Orientation and then join fellow freshman parents for a cup of coffee and pastries. Principal Matthew Zito will speak about what to expect during the first weeks of school.

SPONSORED BY M-A'S FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE