



Parent Update
October 10, 2011

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of our school!! Here is what's going on at MSA:

- OctoBRA, an event created to support and target breast cancer awareness, is a month long event in the Expressions Art Gallery at Manatee School For the Arts. The bra themed artwork created by students in our art classes, as well as by each of the faculty in the Visual Art Department is displayed in this exhibit. On the evening of Friday, October 14th, from 6:30—8:30, we will be hosting a Gala Reception where we hope to continue to generate funds for Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Florida Suncoast Affiliate organization to be used for cancer research. Our goal is to have sponsors for all of the pieces in the show. Pink ribbon cards will be posted by the pieces that are being sponsored, with the name of the sponsor and a message with the name of those lost to breast cancer or celebrating the survivors. If you have any questions, wish to donate or would like to sponsor a piece of artwork, call 941-721-6800 x1058 or 1051. Based on the audience favorite pieces, we will be awarding a “*Breast of Show*” Ribbon at the end of the month. Thank you for your support!!
- We are thrilled to announce this year MSA will be having its very first SPIRIT WEEK, brought to you by the MSA HEAT dance team. The HEAT has been working very hard to see that this is a wonderful school experience for everyone! There are a lot of really fun events planned and hope to see as many students at the events as possible!

Below is a quick look at the week's events:

Spirit Week: October 10th-13th

Monday-October 10th Mr. & Miss MSA Pageant	7:00-8:30	Large Theater	\$7.00
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Tuesday-October 11th High School Class Night	6:00-7:30	P.E. Field	\$2.00
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Classes play a large variety of field games/relays to earn class bragging rights. Watch a willing faculty member get slimed

Wednesday-October 12th Middle School Class Night	6:00-7:30	P.E. Field	\$2.00
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Thursday-October 13th

Faculty Talent Show/Club Lip Sync Contest 7:00-8:30 Cafeteria \$5.00

There will also be lip sync acts from various school clubs. All acts are 80's inspired. Dress up in 80's attire

Thank you in advance for your support and enthusiasm for Spirit Week. All proceeds benefit the HEAT Dance Team. If you have any questions please Ms. Born (eborn@msfta.org) or Ms. Castner (kcastner@msfta.org)

- Mu Alpha Theta, MSA's math honor society is providing tutoring for students both before and after school. Mu Alpha Theta members are available to tutor in the mornings, Monday through Friday from 8:30 until 9:15, and on Thursday after school until 5:30. You must sign up ahead of time to participate in this program. To sign up, please email Ms. Werner (hwerner@msfta.org). She will make arrangements for your child's tutoring sessions. Please take advantage of this opportunity to get some extra help in Math!!
- MSA's Earth Club has found a way for you to help your school and help the planet at the same time. Please drop old newspapers and magazines into the SP Recycling bin located at the NE corner of the parent loop. The school earns money from this paper recycling opportunity, so please help us fill the bin each month! Any questions, please contact Mrs. Wallin at dwallin@msfta.org. Thank you for your support!



WELLNESS & NUTRITION COMMITTEE

There is currently an opening on this committee for one parent and one student; we will meet three more times this year—either before or after school. We are working together to implement state and national standards of nutrition education here at MSA. If you or your student is interested in participating with this important group, please contact Rosa Whiting, 721-6800 x1068 or rwhiting@msfta.org.

- Don't miss Manatee County's Post Secondary Education Night which will be held on Monday, October 24th from 6:30-8:30 at the Manatee Civic Center. This is a great opportunity to meet representatives from over 100 colleges, universities and technical schools and gather information to help you plan for your future.
- All 10th grade students will be taking the PSAT is on October 12th during the school day. This practice test will help students assess their preparation for post-secondary education!!
- Please note that FCAT retakes will be administered to 11th and 12th grade students between October 17th – 21st. If your child is taking these assessments, please make sure they are in attendance during these important days.

- Attention Middle School parents – Payback Night has been re-scheduled. We will hold the event in the January or February... More information will come soon!!
- Many of you have probably heard about Rtl (Response to Intervention) programs that we are implementing at MSA. I wanted to send some more information outlining what this Rtl stuff is really all about!!

WHAT IS RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION?

Response to Intervention (Rtl) is a process that provides intervention and educational support to all students at increasing levels of intensity based on their individual needs. The goal is to prevent problems and intervene early so that students can be as successful as possible.

WHAT DOES RTI LOOK LIKE?

The Rtl process has three tiers that build upon one other. Each tier provides more intensive levels of support:

Tier I includes high quality instruction in every classroom. The school provides all students with access to high quality curriculum, instruction, and behavior supports in the general education classroom.

Tier II includes additional targeted, supplemental instruction/interventions for smaller groups of students. The school provides interventions to small groups of students who need more support than the whole class instruction.

Tier III includes intensive interventions for the smallest group of students. The school develops and implements interventions to meet the individual needs of students for additional educational support.

Your child's progress is monitored by the Rtl team at MSA and results are used to make decisions about additional instruction and intervention that may be needed to assure for everyone. We use school-wide screening tools to determine who need additional support, and work as a school-wide team to assure that students get the educational program that best fits their needs.

Parents are an important part of this process. Parents of Tier II students have been notified, and parents may be asked to come to an Rtl team meeting to help create continued supports for your child. Please help us support the best program we can provide for your child. With the continued development of higher standards and graduation requirements for all students, we want to assure that students get the most support possible, and meet their goals for today and in the future.

Thank you for your continued support of our school. Don't miss out on the many upcoming events being held here at MSA – we are entering a busy time of year, and working hard at providing the best education possible for your child. We look forward to seeing you around at the school, and if we can ever help in any way, please feel free to contact us. Have a GREAT week!!

Upcoming Events

October

14

No School – In-service day

14	Octobra Gallery Event	6:30
14	Thespians Preview Show – Small Theatre	7:00
15	Thespians Competition	
20-22, 27-29	Into the Woods	7:00
21	End of the First Quarter	
24	No School – Records Day	
25	October Jr/Sr Seminar	

November

9-10	Veterans Day Assemblies	
11	No School – Veterans Day	
23-25	No School – Thanksgiving Break	

For more information, check out our website at www.msfta.org