



School Update  
September 10, 2010

Believe it or not, the first three weeks of school are complete. Students are starting to settle in more, and we are off to a great start of the 2010-2011 school year. Thank you for all your support and for helping make MSA a special place for your child to grow and learn.

- Don't miss our annual "Back to School" Nights, being held on September 21<sup>st</sup> for Middle School and 23<sup>rd</sup> for High School. This is a great opportunity to meet your child's teachers, and to get a taste of the schedule they follow every day of the school year. Festivities begin at 6:00, so come out and see what is going on at MSA.
- If you get a chance this weekend come out to the September 11<sup>th</sup> flag ceremony at the historical park in downtown Palmetto (by the library and Palmetto Elementary). Tomorrow, Saturday, at 8:30, one of 15 Ground Zero flags will be presented to the City of Palmetto to start the nation-wide journey back to New York City for the 10 year commemorative ceremony on September 11, 2011. MSA Sophomore Channing Weir will be performing at the ceremony, and the flag will then be presented to MSA to start the journey back to New York. This is a great honor, and we are excited to take part in these exciting events.
- Students should not miss the opportunity to participate in the open auditions we will be holding on Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, and if invited to call backs, on Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, for all MSA productions during the 2010-2011 school year. Some of the show ideas we have in mind range from Hairspray, Into the Woods Jr., Oklahoma, Putnum County Spelling Bee, and more. We are looking for outstanding talent for students in 7-12<sup>th</sup> grades. 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will have an opportunity later in the year to audition and participate in a performance for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students only. If your child is interested in performing in any shows this school year at MSA, please make sure they are at the open audition on Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>!!



- Congratulations go out to 2010 MSA graduate Kim Stevens for her acceptance to the Miami City Ballet. Kim will be performing with the troupe, touring the state and country. We are very proud of her accomplishments and wish her good luck on her progress as a dancer!!

- Don't forget, picture day is Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> for middle school students, and 16<sup>th</sup> for high school students. All students wear their uniforms for pictures, so make sure you send them to school in their uniforms those days. Any questions, let us know.
- The first book fair of the year will be held here at MSA starting on Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup> and running until the end of the day on Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. All students will have an opportunity to purchase books during the school day. This is a great chance to get books at an outstanding price, and support the school in the process.
- Our annual Cheesecake fundraiser is underway now. Check with your child about participating in this outstanding fundraising event. MSA makes a lot of profit through this fundraiser, and it is the school's main fundraising event of the year. Get some great tasting cheesecakes, support our school, and help your child earn some great prizes. We greatly appreciate any help and support you can give.
- MSA is starting a new club. Students shouldn't miss the chance to be a part of the MSA Irish Dance club, starting on Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-6:00. Students should wear dance clothes (something comfortable to move in) and be ready to work hard. Any questions, please contact Mr. Devine.



- We value the health and wellness of our students highly, and therefore have committed to meeting the goals of our wellness policy and update it annually. You can find a copy of our wellness policy on the school's website under services/cafeteria. If you would like to become a member of our Wellness Committee or if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact Ms. Schamber at [bschamber@msfta.org](mailto:bschamber@msfta.org) or Ms. Albert at [salbert@msfta.org](mailto:salbert@msfta.org). Participation in the Wellness Committee would count towards your volunteer commitment of 10 hours per year, so come out and get involved.
- MSA is in the planning stages of a great event for middle school parents and students, which we will hold at the beginning of November. Be on the lookout for more information on MSA's first ever Payback Night, an event for the entire family. We will be having a dance for middle school students, a dinner for everyone, and workshops for parents. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the school, and to enjoy a great night out for everyone. More information will be coming home soon!!

- SAT and ACT prep courses are being offered at MSA. Math classes are offered at 8:45 in the morning on Monday and Friday, and Reading classes are being offered at 8:45 on Tuesday and Thursday. Juniors and Seniors, don't wait to take the tests, and don't miss your chance to get extra help preparing for them. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Petrone (math) or Mrs. Conlon (reading).



- If you missed it, MSA was featured in an article from the Bradenton Herald reporting on our renovations and the great things going on at school. Click on the link below to see some great pictures of our students learning and having fun at MSA!!  
<http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://www.bradenton.com/2010/09/05/2551588/photo-gallery-manatee-school-for.html&ct=ga&cad=:s7:f1:v0:d1:i1:ld:e0:p0:t1283679623:&cd=9IbCEn0qGdl&usg=AFQjCNFf0laW9Ejq78luPqQ-wYdEJ-ZRBA>
- Dancers – mark your calendars in advance – the dance showcase dates are as follows:
 

Ballet Showcases	January 7,8,13,14 and May 20,21
All Other Classes	January 14, 15 and 20, 21
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	January 13 and May 19

We hope that everyone is getting settled in as the school year starts revving up... keep an eye on the website and calendar for the most up-to-date information on the school, and keep checking your child's Edline for current grades and performance in class. As always, let us know if you have any questions, and we look forward to seeing you here at school!!

## **Upcoming Events**

### September

- 14 & 16 School Pictures
- 16 Open Auditions for MSA shows
- 17 Callbacks for Auditions
- 18 HEAT Dance Clinic
- 21/23 Back to School Night
- 27 5 Week Progress Reports sent home with students
- 28 Variety Show Auditions

- October 15 No School – Teacher In-service Day
- 22 End of the First Quarter
- 25 No School – Records Day

*Please check the website for more dates and times*

[www.msfta.org](http://www.msfta.org)