



School Update
September 24, 2010

It was great to see everyone who came out for our annual Back-to-School nights this past week. Communicating with parents on your children's performance is key to their success, and we appreciate your support. Please keep an eye on the calendar for more upcoming events and opportunities to come into school and be a part of your child's education!!

- Progress reports will be sent home with students on Monday, September 27th – please be sure to ask to see them when they get home!!
- Attention Middle School parents: Payback Night registration is under way!! If you have not heard about this exciting event yet, let me preview it for you. It is a great way to connect with what your child is learning at school, and to find ways to help them succeed in their education (as well as have a good time!!).
 - A dance for students
 - Dinner for the whole family
 - Babysitting for children ages 4-10
 - Workshops for parents
 - Raffle prizes for parents
 - A GREAT time had by all

The key is, that all of these events are FREE – but students must bring at least one parent to the event for the evening!! Anyone interested in coming must be pre-registered. You can find more information about Payback Night on our website at www.msfta.org (with registration materials). Information will also be sent home on Monday with progress reports. We are looking forward to a great night. Please let us know if you have any questions!!

Payback Night is for Middle School Parents and Students ONLY!!

We are still looking for prize donations to raffle off on Payback Night. If you know of any business that would be willing to contribute to the evening, please contact Mr. Campbell at scampbell@msfta.org. We appreciate your continued support.

- Variety show auditions are on Tuesday, September 28, 2010!!

- Please check out the Guidance web site for some very important information regarding your child's education program here at MSA. Graduation requirements, scholarship information, SAT and ACT registration information, Bright Futures Information and communications from the Guidance Department may be found on the school's website (www.msfta.org) under services.

Students must fill out a yellow form found in the guidance office to speak with their counselor; students will be called down.

Seniors will be having Senior Week(s) from September 20-October 1. Graduation requirements will be discussed. In December, students will be called down for review of both community service hours and Bright Futures.

- Attention 10th and 11th Grade parents: We will be giving all 10th grade students the PSAT on October 13th. Some 11th grade students have elected to take this test on the 13th as well... Please make sure your child gets a good night sleep on the 12th, and a good breakfast on the 13th. This will help them perform better on the test. The PSAT will be given during the school day.
- MSA participates in the "2010 Sweetbay Supports Schools" Program

We are excited to participate in the "2010 Sweetbay Supports Schools" program to create awareness around health and wellness for our students, as well as earn some prizes for our school. Here is how it works:

Between now and November 2nd, Sweetbay will issue "school dollar" coupons at the register when you purchase select items marked with a blue tag. Bring the coupon to school and drop them off in a specially marked box by the front desk. Remember, each coupon not submitted equals lost dollars for the school.

The school dollars are redeemed for real dollars by the school after November 2nd. In addition, our school will be in the running for additional prizes ranging from \$2,000-\$10,000 and a visit from an area celebrity.

For more information on the program, please visit your local Sweetbay store or check out their website at www.sweetbaysupportsschools.com.

Thank you in advance for your support!!

- Any 7th or 8th grade student interested in participating in the Seacamp program this year, please contact Mrs. Lentz at rlentz@msfta.org.

- As progress reports come out on Monday, don't forget to keep up regularly with your child's grades on Edline (www.edline.net). If you don't have an access code to get your child's grades on Edline, please let us know ASAP. This is a great tool to keep in touch with your child's performance on a regular basis!!
- An important amendment vote is coming up in November, and we wanted to pass along some information regarding Amendment 8, which is in reference to the class size amendment. We want to make sure that all our parents are educated on the topic, and that you exercise your right to vote on this very important issue.

In the attachment to this e-mail, you will find some important facts regarding the Florida Class Size amendment. Charter schools, for the 2010-2011 school year, are not at the per-class hard cap level, but at the school-wide average. We anticipate that to change for the 2011-2012 school year.

This is an important decision that we want to make sure is on the forefront of your thinking as we progress towards election day in November, and an educated voter is an excellent voter!!

- Yearbooks are on sale NOW!! We have decided this year to split the middle school and high school yearbooks, so we will be publishing two yearbooks this year. The middle school yearbook is \$25.00 and the high school yearbook is \$35.00. Prices will go up soon, so reserve your copy now. For more information, check the link on our homepage (www.msfta.org).
- Don't forget ACT/SAT tutoring for students being held each week – math on Mondays and Fridays, reading on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It is a great opportunity to prepare for these important exams!!
- MSA HEAT dance auditions (to fill a couple newly opened spots) will be held Wednesday, September 29th from 4:45-6:30 in room 402. Any questions, please see Ms. Born or Ms. Castner.
- All 7th & 8th grade students are invited to an evening of fun with their MSA friends at AMF Bradenton Lanes on October 1, 2010. Cost of admission is just \$10 and includes two hours of bowling and bowling shoe rental. Food and beverages are available for purchase.

We are limited to 100 tickets so get your ticket fast!

PLACE : AMF Bradenton Lanes, 4208 Cortez Rd. West, Bradenton FL 33511

TIME : Friday, October 1, 2010 6:00pm to 8:00pm (Please pick students up promptly at 8:00pm)

COST : \$10 includes shoe rental and two hours of bowling. (MSA students only)

Cash or Checks (Checks should be made payable to MSA.)

Tickets must be purchased in advance at school.

Tickets **cannot be sold at the door.**

Please see Mr. Conlon or Mrs. Simon to purchase tickets

Upcoming Events

September		
	27	5 Week Progress Reports sent home with students
	28	Variety Show Auditions
October	14	Variety Show – 7:00
	15	No School – Teacher In-service Day
		South Florida Museum “World Day” – 6:30 PM
	21	A Night of Opera – 7:00
	22	End of the First Quarter
		Middle School Fall Fling – 6:30
	23	High School Fall Fling – 6:30
	25	No School – Records Day
	27-29	Cheesecake Pickup Days
November	5	Payback Night – 6:30 – MS students and parents ONLY
	11	No School – Veterans Day

Please check the website for more dates and times

www.msfta.org