



Parents' Association Newsletter

Volume VI Issue 1

September/October 2005

Dear Parent Friends,

Jane Miller, PA President

On behalf of the Parents' Association board and committee chairs, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to all new families. I have enjoyed meeting many of you at the round-up and at our association's first meeting earlier this month. The Parents' Association functions as a supportive liaison between the school and home communities at MVS and supports events and activities throughout the school year. All parents/guardians of currently enrolled MVS students are members of the MVS Parents' Association. The goals of our mission of support are made possible through the collective efforts of our parent volunteers. We are just into our first month of school, yet, parents across divisions have already raised funds, chaperoned trips, provided supplies to various events and attended many a planning meeting in plentiful demonstration of the volunteer spirit that is a vital aspect of our school culture. I'd like to invite new and returning parents to get involved in our various activities. Information regarding the Parents' Association activities is readily available through campus fliers, bulletin boards, bi-monthly newsletters and online through the parents' link at the MVS website (www.mvschool.com).

Please make note of the following easy ways funds can be raised by simply designating MVS as the beneficiary:

- ❖ SCRIP continues to be a tremendous success for all, a win-win-win for you, the school and the retailer. Scrip or substitute money is used just like cash, good at thousands of retailers and with every purchase, MVS can earn revenue, and you a tuition reduction. Please go to the MVS website to review application, see participating retailers and additional information.
- ❖ DOROTHY LANE MARKET GOOD NEIGHBOR provides us over \$2,000 annually. Applications need to be renewed at the

beginning of each year. Renewal is easily accomplished online at www.dorothylane.com or through applications available at the L.S. and U.S. offices.

- ❖ MEIJER COMMUNITY REWARDS program does not require annual renewal. Meijer has contributed about \$1,000 to MVS. You can sign online at www.meijer.com.
- ❖ Please continue saving your GENERAL MILLS BOX TOPS and send them to school. General Mills has greatly expanded the range of eligible product lines with the box tops. There is a folder in the Lower School hallway on the P.A. bulletin board or you can drop them in the Upper school P.A. mailbox. This is a great way for your Children to participate!! Last year we raised over \$500 with this program
- ❖ TARGET TAKE CHARGE OF EDUCATION distributes 1% of all your purchase back to school using the Target Visa or the Target Guest Card. To apply go to www.target.com.
- ❖ OFFICE DEPOT 5% BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM will give 5% of your purchase back to school just by designating as your school; this is not just for back to school supplies but purchases all year long.
- ❖ As a LANDS' END PREFERRED SCHOOL we have a unique opportunity to support MVS. This Preferred School Contribution Program donates 3% of the net sales from the Lands' End School catalogs and Lands' End School web pages back to the school. The Preferred School number for MVS is: 900-3179-0. For more information log onto: www.landsend.com/school.

Lower School News

- ❖ The Lower School "office team" is now complete. We are happy to announce that joining new principal Cheryl Bellman as Administrative Assistant is Dina Seymour. Dina comes to us with extensive professional experience and abilities, and a warm and

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REFLECTIVE GARDEN REMINDER

Despite calls issued throughout last year, there continues to be a need for volunteers to assist with the Reflective Garden. The Reflective Garden is a place of tranquility and beauty that benefits the entire campus with its seasonal blooms and foliage. Parent volunteers have cared for the garden's needs under the expert guidance of garden committee chair Holly McConnaughey. This will be Holly's last year at this stint and therefore the need for a team of volunteers to continue this tradition of excellence is immediate. Please prioritize this call for volunteers and contact Holly McConnaughey at hdm@woh.rr.com to volunteer for this unique activity. Thanks!

welcoming personality. Be sure to stop in the Lower School office to meet her.

- ❖ Much work and sprucing-up has taken place at the Early Childhood Center and in Lower School over the course of the summer in preparation for the new school year. Exciting changes and additions in Lower School include the installation of ceiling fans in our classrooms, which provide better circulation of air and more comfortable working environments for our LS students and teachers as well as the installation of eighteen new computers in the LS library/computer lab and additional new computers in our third through fifth grade classrooms.
- ❖ PIN Night was held on Wednesday, September 14, 2005. Parents met with class and co-curricular teachers and obtained information on teachers' plans for their children for the academic year. Regular and consistent communication between school and home is essential for providing the best learning opportunities for our students. Much important LS information and news will be shared via e-mail throughout the school year. Please be sure to check your email frequently!
- ❖ Picture Day for EC is Wednesday, September 21, 2005. Picture day for K-5 grades is Thursday, September 22, 2005.
- ❖ EC and LS students have had a great start to the school year: do await future information on their many accomplishments throughout the year!

Middle School News

- ❖ Middle School has 103 students this year, 40 in seventh grade! Welcome all!
- ❖ Middle School students had their field trip of the year to Camp Joy on September 8 and 9. Many thanks to the chaperones who assisted in this effort.
- ❖ Middle School Pac Meeting takes place in the conference room on the second floor of the SAC on Tuesday Sept. 20 at 8:30 a.m.
- ❖ MS PIN is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Wednesday, September 21, 2005. Please plan to attend to hear from your child's teachers.
- ❖ MS Picture Day is Thursday, September 22, 2005. Please remember to send in form/payment for your child.
- ❖ MS social: (movies and outdoor games) on Friday, September 23 from 7-9:30 p.m. Pizza provided (no cost). Ms. Tana Eikenbery will be in charge, as Mr. Glisson will be at parents' weekend at Evansville. Please be on time for pick up at 9:30 p.m.
- ❖ On Wednesday, September 28, 2005, eighth graders will be at the Renaissance Festival all day (no cost). They do need to bring money for lunch.
- ❖ Auditions have been held and first cast/crew meeting held for the MS play, "How to Eat Like a Child". The play is directed by MS English faculty member, author and actress Ms. Katrina Kittle. Performances are scheduled for 7 p.m. on Friday, October 20 and Saturday, October 21, 2005.
- ❖ On Monday, October 24, the entire middle school is going to the Egypt exhibit at DAI (no cost).

Upper School News

- ❖ As preparation for the launch of the school-wide Curriculum Mapping process this fall, the recommendation for which arose from the ISACS Self-Study last fall, Karin O'Neil, Executive Director of OAIS and Curriculum Mapping guru, addressed the entire MVS faculty during an in-service workshop in June.
- ❖ The firm Rubicon International, with their highly respected Atlas Curriculum Mapping program, has been hired as the web-based program to support the Curriculum Mapping process at MVS. The entire MVS faculty participated in two days of training seminars on campus as part of beginning-of-school faculty meetings in late August.
- ❖ The role of the Department Chairs continues to undergo exciting revision. With the recent appointments of Glenn Squiers (History/Social Studies), Jon Graetz (Mathematics), and Maureen Redmond (Foreign Language) to the group, the role and responsibilities of departmental leadership will be a significant focus during the 2006 academic year.
- ❖ At last, at *long* last, the official results from the inaugural offering of the Ohio Graduation Test are in! The results for the Class of 2007 are outstanding, which is credited to the attentive preparation by the students, the subject area review sessions offered by MVS faculty members, as well as the over-all strength of the upper school curriculum. In the 5 OGT subject areas, here are the

Parent Grade Representatives for 2005-2006

Grade	Parent/s
EC	Monique Mead
Kindergarten	Heidi Ferstl
First	Kathy Gibson Marissa Maroni
Second	Penny Valentini
Third	Melinda Trout Camelia Wibowo
Fourth	Aroceli Garza Melissa Imbody
Fifth	Kim Meador
Sixth	Cathy Lane Dalia Karaman
Seventh	Stephanie Kyles Lisa Benedict
Eighth	Jannie Brown Jennifer Edwards Randa Shrit
Ninth	Carla Brogden Diane Ludwig
Tenth	Peggy Adam Cheryl Page
Eleventh	Sandy Gunasekara Nora Newsock
Twelfth	Jeri Braunlin Beth Mann

percentage pass-rates, meaning scores at the "Proficient," "Accelerated," or "Advanced" levels, for the Class of 2007: Reading, 100%; Mathematics, 95.9%; Writing, 100%; Science, 91.2%; and Social Studies, 98%. Department Chairs will lead discussions in strategizing how we will approach preparation for the 2008 OGT for this coming spring. Good show, all around!

- ❖ As mentioned in the June/July issue of this Newsletter, we are excited to welcome three faculty members new to MVS this fall. Ruth Jewitt-Warner has joined the Social Studies Department, while Nathan Czuba and Deb Porter have joined the Mathematics Department. It is a delight to welcome them to the illustrious ranks of the upper school faculty!
- ❖ The trimester-long Health course, required for all freshmen, underwent a significant revision during the summer, under the direction of Ralph Suiter. Mr. Suiter will teach all three sections of the Health course and will supervise the scheduling of guest speakers to supplement the course curriculum.
- ❖ To provide additional elective course offerings and reflecting staff interest in seeking greater involvement with students via classroom interaction, Nicole LaSelle (School Counselor) and Jill Hanning (Alumni Coordinator) will teach term-long electives this year. Ms. LaSelle will offer Women's Studies (Social Studies) in the fall term and a spring term English elective; Ms. Hanning will offer Journalism (English) during the winter term.
- ❖ Proposals for Immersion offerings for 2005-06 have been submitted. Department Chairs and upper school faculty members are reviewing the submissions for range of offerings, cost, and programmatic diversity. The official listing of Immersion offerings for 2006 will be posted on the school website for students and families to review by late-September. By the end of fall trimester, students would have had the opportunity to review and sign up for their choices of Immersion offerings.
- ❖ Reflecting changes in teaching assignments and new course offerings, MVS faculty members attended the following Advanced Placement Teacher Workshops during the summer: AP European History (Ms. Jewitt-Warner); AP Calculus (Mr. Graetz); AP Statistics (Mr. Czuba); and AP American Government (Ms. Knight).
- ❖ As part of his professional development, Mr. Sam Wagner, Interim Upper School Principal and Curriculum Coordinator, attended the Independent School Management, Inc (ISM) summer workshop titled, Leading the Successful Upper School. The workshop, located this year in Salt Lake City and lasting from 26 June – 2 July, included 14 principals from various independent schools from around the country. The workshop facilitated discussion of current topics, sharing of professional experiences and pedagogical methodologies, brainstorming towards future challenges, and enhancing professional networking connections.

MVS Athletics

- ❖ Athletic Practices began on August 8, 2005 for US students and August 22, 2005 for MS and LS students. This fall, we have record numbers of students practicing and playing in team sports across all divisions.

- ❖ The Girls Varsity Tennis team has been undefeated and took first place in a preseason tournament against eight other schools.
- ❖ The Girls Junior Varsity Tennis team is undefeated, as well, and they placed third in their preseason tournament against eight other teams
- ❖ The JV Golf team defeated Wellington, an independent school from Columbus, for the first time at MVS.
- ❖ As of start of school, the Varsity Golf team is undefeated for the season and has taken 2 - 4th place finishes in two different tournaments. Sam Williams was second place at the Brookville Invitational and 5th at the Northridge Invitational. Drew Zorniger placed 9th at the Northridge Invitational.
- ❖ The Girls Soccer team opened up their season on Monday, August 22, at Cincinnati Country Day in the First Annual Private School Soccer Tournament. The 4-time defending MBC Soccer Champs look to repeat as champions again this season.
- ❖ The Boys Soccer team opened up their season on Tuesday, August 23, at MVS in the First Annual Private School Soccer Tournament. They hope to have a winning season this fall!
- ❖ The Girls Volleyball team has been playing and practicing very hard. They opened their season on Saturday, August 27 at MVS.
- ❖ Come support the Rams this week and throughout the season! Look to the next issue of the PA Newsletter to read all about every team's and every athlete's efforts this fall! This will be an exciting year for the athletes at MVS. GO RAMS!

Parents' Association Board Executive Committee 2005-2006

President	Jane Miller
President-elect	Marti Cole
Upper School VP	Janet Jacobs
Middle School VP	Annie Frick
Lower School VP	Diana Gilliotte
Lower School VP	Cindy Seebacher
Early Childhood VP	Anne Dettmer
Upper School Athletic VP	K-Ann Grieco
Middle School Athletic VP	Joe Paul
Lower School Athletic VP	Greg Benedict
Fine Arts VP	Nadia Malarkey
Communications VP	Kathy Kissinger
Treasurer	Tracy Williams
Secretary	Sandy Gunasekera
Past President	Tracy Williams
Committee Chairs	
PA Newsletter Editor	Usha Hariharan
Spirit Sales Chair	Dan Lyon
Reflective Garden Chair	Holly McConnaughey
Bulk Mail Chair	Becky Burgan

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2005

- 20 8:30-12:00 1st & 2nd grades to DAI
8:30 MS PAC – SAC conf. room
MS Philharmonic Assembly (p.m.)
- 21 EC Picture Day
7: 00 p.m. MS PIN
- 22 US PAC
K-12 Picture Day (retakes on 11/1)
- 23 MS Social – Movie/Outdoor Games
- 28 8th Grade to Renaissance Festival
7:00 p.m. US PIN
- 29-30 US, MS Midterms
- 30 MS Choreography workshop with Nat Horne

OCTOBER 2005

- 1 Passover ends
- 3 Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown
- 5 Rosh Hashanah Ends
Sophomore Coffee
- 6 Parents' Association Meeting
- 7 MVCDS Tournament
- 8 MVCDS Tournament
SAT
- 10 Columbus Day
- 12 PSAT
Yom Kippur begins at Sundown
- 13 US PAC
Yom Kippur Ends at Sundown
- 14 Homecoming
Spirit Day
Career Day
- 15 Homecoming Athletic Events on campus

- 18 MS PAC
- 20 LS PAC
7:00 p.m. Senior Parent College
- 21 7: 00 p.m. MS play
- 22 ACT
7: 00 p.m. MS play
- 24 MS to DAI—Egypt Exhibit
Junior Coffee
- 25 8:30-11:30 a.m. 1st Grade to Victoria Theater
- 26 MS PAC
Freshmen Coffee
- 27 MS Social—Haunted Hayride (off-campus)
- 28 NO SCHOOL—College Visitation
- 29 College Visitation
- 31 LS Halloween Parties
Jeff Wolfsberg visits



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