

ViewPoint – October 23, 2009

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Calendar for the Week of October 26th:

Oct. 30 Spirit Day – **Wear Black & Orange**

Up Coming Dates

Nov. 1	Daylight Savings Time Ends – Fall Back
Nov. 5	PTA Student Social 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Nov. 6	No School – Staff Development Day
Nov. 12	Hearing & Vision Screening – 8 th Grade ONLY
Nov. 16 – 20	American Education Week
Nov. 17	Report Cards Issued
Nov. 20	Take Your Parent to MVMS Day Honor Roll Assembly

A Note from the Principal

Already it's the end of October and school routines and events are well underway. We were pleased to find that our CIVILITY WEEK activities were highlighted in the local papers and we hope that you will help us recognize all of the positive activities that occur at Mount View Middle School. I would like to highlight just a few recent events and upcoming calendar items.

This week we celebrated our first PBIS SkyFlyer Day. PBIS stands for positive behavior intervention supports and we were recognized by the state as a GOLD school. The students were able to sign up online or through their science classes, so technology was incorporated into the learning opportunity. They were also able to participate in activities that ranged from a live reptile show to kickball to guitar to electronics. We want to thank Mr. Guy for coordinating SkyFlyer Day, the teachers for sponsoring meaningful and engaging activities, and the students for demonstrating positive behavior every day!

The end of Quarter 1 is just around the corner. We have designated the week of Nov. 7th as ASSESSMENT WEEK, although teachers may begin parts of the assessments a little earlier. Also, the schedule for reading assessments may vary slightly based on the timelines associated with the updated HCPSS reading curriculum.

As you would expect, report cards and Parent Conferences follow on the calendar (Nov. 23rd, 24th, and 25th). Today is a TeacherEase grade posting date so please remember that you can monitor grades as they are updated. The benefit is that you do not have to wait for a report card grade to check with your child and contact the teacher with a question. You can contact teachers by email or phone at any time after you have spoken with your child about a grade or missing work and you can schedule conferences throughout the year through our Student Services Office when concerns are most relevant. The Parent Conference

Days provide very limited slots so we do ask you to understand that we have to restrict the sign-up to three conferences per student in order to provide a fair opportunity for our large school community. If you feel satisfied with your child's progress and the content he/she is learning, you should not feel obligated to schedule a conference. If you have specific questions about academic progress and curriculum, then Parent Conferences are an ideal time to speak with individual teachers for a brief update and clarification.

Lastly, American Education Week is scheduled Nov. 16-20. (Note that report cards are issued on Nov. 17th at the end of the school day.) We are sponsoring Friday, Nov. 20, 2009, as TAKE YOUR PARENT TO SCHOOL DAY. During the morning we will host the HONOR ROLL ASSEMBLIES. We're calling the lunch shifts LOL—LUNCH OF LEARNING—because you can learn a lot about adolescent social focus during lunch and recess. Finally, lessons will be HOT; in other words, we will be featuring HIGHER ORDER THINKING.

As Mount View Middle continues in its 17th year, we are very fortunate to have such dedicated and talented staff members. At the end of October, two of those original staff members will be retiring. Join us as we wish the very best to Joe Duckworth, our Media Specialist, and Rick Frankle, our Technology Teacher. We will be making some internal shifts and hiring some certified long-term substitutes in order to maintain the instructional resource of media and technology. I will be able to share that information with you next week, but I know you will want to send best wishes to Mr. Duckworth and Mr. Frankle since their last day will be October 30th.

Fall has arrived with up and down temperatures and beautiful foliage. I hope you and your family enjoy learning together throughout the season!

Sincerely,
Kathy McKinley, Principal

School Activities – Dates & Times

Please mark your calendar and note the times.

- **Chess Club** (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM) - Oct. 28
- **Cross Country** (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM) – Oct. 27, Oct. 29, Nov. 3
- **Environment** (2:30 PM – 3:00 PM) – Nov. 5, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, Dec. 17
- **Falcon Friends** (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM) – Oct. 29
- **Hip Hop Dancing** (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM) - Oct. 30, Nov. 6, Nov. 13, Nov. 20
- **Jewelry Making** (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM) - Oct. 29
- **Newspaper** (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM) – Oct. 27, Nov. 3, Nov. 10, Nov. 17
- **Organization** (7:00 AM – 7:30 AM) – Oct. 27, Oct. 29, Nov. 3, Nov. 5, Nov. 10, Nov. 12
- **Spirit Team** (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM) – Nov. 3, Nov. 17, Dec. 1, Dec 15
- **Student Government** (2:30 PM – 3:25 PM) – Oct. 27, Nov. 3, Nov. 10, Nov. 17
- **Yearbook** (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM) – Oct. 28, Nov. 4, Nov. 11, Nov. 18

H1N1 Vaccine

The **Howard County Health Department (HCHD)** has begun to receive doses of **H1N1 vaccine – in the form of FluMist® and injectible vaccine**. The HCHD receives all the vaccine for the county. As the vaccine comes in, it will be administered as soon as possible to those most vulnerable to the H1N1 flu, including children ages 6 months through 24 years old. The Health Department is working closely with the school system to administer the vaccine, free of charge, to any HCPSS student with

parent permission. The vaccine is expected to be more readily available by November.

HCHD and the school system have devised a tentative schedule of H1N1 flu vaccine clinics, beginning with schools that have the highest enrollment. This schedule is posted on the school system's website, at www.hcpss.org/pandemic. The schedule simply lists the order in which schools will receive the vaccine and not specific dates, because we do not know how much vaccine will be available at any given time. FluMist® will be administered to elementary students; injectible vaccine will be administered to middle and high school students. HCHD officials expect to receive more injectible vaccine than FluMist®. If or when FluMist® is no longer available, injectible vaccine will be offered to elementary students at afterschool clinics, so that parents can accompany their child. Elementary school students with asthma or other chronic health problems may not be eligible to receive the FluMist, so parents may wish to consult with their child's physician about injectible vaccines.

It is the HCHD's priority to vaccinate as many students as soon as possible. This may result in changes to the posted schedule. If only a small shipment of vaccine is available at a particular time, a school with a smaller enrollment may receive vaccine earlier. Conversely, students at schools that have received the seasonal FluMist® will be delayed if the 30-day waiting period between vaccines has not occurred.

Parents will receive notification and a consent form when their child's school is next in line to receive the vaccine. A child will not receive the vaccine without a signed parental consent form.

Please note: Health officials recommend that children under 10 years old receive a second dose of the H1N1 flu vaccine, which may not be administered in schools. The HCHD hopes to provide after-school clinics for second dose administration, but this is tentative. Although a second dose is not required, it is recommended to increase immunity in younger children. Parents of children under age 10 may wish to consult with their child's physician about getting the second dose of the H1N1 vaccine. Look for vaccine updates from your school, through HCPSS News, and on the school system's website. The school system will continue to provide information as soon as it becomes available. Your flexibility and cooperation are appreciated as we work to provide the vaccine to our school-aged population as quickly and efficiently as possible. Questions may be directed to the Howard County Health Department, 410-313-6503.

Orchestra News

On October 16th, the MVMS 7th and 8th Grade Orchestra performed at the Maryland Music Educators Association Fall Convention. The orchestra was chosen based on its superior performance at the State Adjudication last May. They played eleven new pieces published for string orchestra. Congratulations to the orchestra members for an excellent performance!

Yearbook Pictures

This year's yearbook will feature a section that will include **baby pictures of our 8th graders.** If you would like to have your child's picture included, please put an excellent quality photo in a baggie labeled with your child's name and Falcon Time teacher. The photos will be scanned and therefore returned to the students. If they are not labeled, it will be impossible to give them back. Please give the pictures to Mrs. Stout by November 13th. Thank you so much for participating in this very cute section of our yearbook.

MVTV Announcements

MVTV is Mount View's morning program with school announcements. **Announcements** can be submitted by going to www.mountviewmiddleschool.org/mvtv/announcements.php.

PTA News

Woodward Memorial: As you may know, our beloved friend and student, Vincent Woodward, recently passed away. He was to have been an eighth grader this year, but lost his life in a tragic car accident along with his mother, Jennifer. Now, we are creating a lasting memory of their lives and hard

work by helping to raise funds for a memorial to be completed in the spring of 2010 at the Howard County Conservancy. If you would like to help make this dream a reality, you can donate money for the cause. Any amount would be greatly appreciated and depending on how much money is raised, there are different garden features. We believe that Vincent and his family deserve the best, so we are going to work as hard as we can for a nice garden for Vincent and Jennifer. We feel that if there is a memorial for Vincent and his mom at the Conservancy, anyone will be able to go there and cherish their lives whenever they like. More information about the Conservancy's Honor Garden can be found at www.hcconservancy.org. We will be collecting donations until October 30th. If you decide to contribute, you can send in a check made out to the Mount View PTA using the form below. Cash donations would need to be completed using the same form below. Please send donations in a sealed envelope addressed to the **Woodward Memorial- Attention: PTA**. We will also be collecting donations at various locations in the community as well and will provide more details soon. We know that this loss is difficult for some people to think about, but the garden is one way to keep Vincent and Jennifer alive in our memories forever.

Woodward Memorial Donation

Name of Donor: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Date: _____ Amount of Donation: _____

Please return to the MVMS Front Office no later than October 30th.

Thank you very much for your kind donation.

Reflections: The theme for the **2009-2010 PTA Reflections competition** is "*Beauty is...*" Students entries will be accepted beginning October 15th with a deadline of October 30th. The rules and a student entry form are available on the MVMS PTA website: www.mvmspta.citymax.com. Please contact Jane Jones at janejones10306@yahoo.com with any questions.

Coat Drive: The MVMS Spirit Team and Student Government are collecting new or gently used, clean coats that are ready to wear (no need to repair) in sizes pre-K through adult sizes. Hats and gloves are also welcome. Donations may be brought to Mount View Middle School and deposited in the "coat drive" bin in the front lobby of the school. Donations will be accepted through November 2nd.

Invitation for all 8th Graders: Join your classmates for a fun afternoon of **Roller Skating** on Friday, November 6th from 1:00 PM to 3:45 PM at Supreme Sports Club. School is closed for a Professional Development Day.

Cost is:

\$6.00 (Admission fee unless you are a member of the Columbia Association. Bring your CA card.)

\$6.00 (own roller skates/in-line skates)

\$9.00 (to rent roller skates)

\$10.00 (to rent in-line skates)

No snacks will be provided, however there is a snack bar for anyone who would like to purchase food on their own. Please return the permission slip (found on MVMS website), www.mountviewmiddleschool.org/admin/welcome/files/8skatingpermission.pdf and a check for the appropriate amount to MVMS Front Office by Monday, November 2nd. **NO WALK-INS**. Please **make checks payable to MVMS PTA**. Parents are responsible for transportation. Students must be picked up by 3:45 PM. If you have any questions, contact Susan Kelly at mdkellys@verizon.net or Suki Nam at sukinam@comcast.net.

Community News

JUKEBOX V AT MRHS THEATER: Get ready to tap your feet and sing along at Marriotts Ridge High School Theatre Department's original musical revue, *Jukebox V* on October 22nd, 23rd, and 24th at 7:00 PM. More than 100 MRHS students have been hard at work on this dancing and singing extravaganza with tunes from the 1950's to today. Leave your cares at home and join us for this rockin' celebration of songs chosen to enchant and entertain. A labor of love, *Jukebox V* is produced by a student committee, and features an original student script and a talented student band that will rock the house. Tickets are \$12 and available at the door. For ticket information visit our website at www.mrhstheatre.org or call MRHS at 410-313-5568. MRHS Theatre is located at 11201 Woodford Drive, Marriottsville, MD 21104.

NOVEMBER CITRUS SALE - just in time for Thanksgiving! The **MRHS Music Department, with the support of the MRHS Music Foundation, is kicking off their Citrus Fruit Sale** to help music students raise funds for the annual Spring Trip. Monthly sales will continue now through February. November sale will offer grapefruit, navel oranges, tangerines, and the always popular Variety Pack. Order deadline is Friday, November 6th with pickup at Marriotts Ridge High School on November 21st...just in time for your Thanksgiving table! For more information and order form, please visit the Music Foundation website at www.mrhsmusic.net. Questions may be directed to mrhsfruit@yahoo.com.

This year's **Mustang 5K Stampede and Scream and 1 Mile Zombie Walk** takes a ghoulish twist, with prizes for costumed participants as well as serious runners. The race starts at the witching hour of 9:00 AM on **Saturday, October 31st at Marriotts Ridge High School**. Prizes range from cash awards and gift cards to certificates for food and services as well as other tricks and treats. Trophies will be awarded to top two runners in more than ten categories. Register online before October 20th for \$20 to participate in either the 5k or the 1 Mile Zombie Walk and receive a commemorative tee shirt. Families registering before October 20th will be charged a maximum of \$60 for all participants. Registration is accepted on race day or any day after October 20th for an additional \$5 fee. Families with young children are encouraged to participate in the Zombie Parade for just \$5 (small goody bag provided in lieu of tee shirt). Get more use—and photo ops--out of that special Halloween costume in a celebratory community setting. Register online at http://www.active.com/event_detail.cfm?event_id=1794485 or download registration form at <http://www.mrhs-boosters.com/stampede09fall.html> and mail in with checks payable to Marriotts Ridge Boosters Club. For questions or more details, contact Race Director Paul Laux at Mustang5K@verizon.net.

So many choices, so little time... and the holidays are fast approaching! **Get your wrapping paper and gift item needs at Innisbrook and support MRHS PTSA's After Prom event!** Online credit card orders only, visit www.innisbrook.com and click on "out of town family and friends". Enter MRHS code #103742 and order away!! Orders sent directly to your home. Questions, contact Christine Crosby mrhs_afterprom@yahoo.com

OPEN HOUSE INFORMATION SESSIONS: All family members are invited to attend the Career & Technology Education Information Sessions at the Applications & Research Laboratory off of Route 108 in Ellicott City from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM. These information sessions will introduce all 8th, 9th and 10th grade students to all the Career Academies and programs available for all high school students to focus on a course of study related to their academic and career interests. November 10th for 8th grade students, November 19th for 9th and 10th graders. There is also a session on January 7th for everyone. Any questions you may call Sally Long at 410-313-6629 by November 5th.

Walk Now for Autism: The National Autism Walk will be held at The National Mall on October 31st. For more information and to register, go to www.NationalAutismWalk.org or call 202-955-3111 or email dcwalk@autismspeaks.org.

Stressless Tests® announces the **Middle School Study Skills Classes** are open for registration. Classes help students who don't test well, despite doing well in class, who are easily distracted and frequently bored, who have never learned how to study, and who think outside the box. Give them the support they need, whether they are gifted learners or are struggling. Classes meet for four Monday evenings from 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM at Burleigh Manor Middle School with sessions starting October 26th, and November 30th. The sliding scale fee ranges from \$135 to \$160, depending on the take home materials selected. Registration includes a copy of the new *What's My Style? Test and Study Secrets for Procrastinating Teens, An Owner's Manual for Your Brain*, by Betty Caldwell. **To register**, go to www.Stresslesstests.org. For more information, contact Betty Caldwell at 410-740-4659, or Bcaldwell@comcast.net.

Join Animal Advocates in their 9th annual Walk for Paws event on Saturday, October 24th, from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Howard County Department of Education in Ellicott City. Proceeds from the Walk help save the lives of both cats and dogs in the metropolitan area. Enjoy contests, prizes, games, activities, and demonstrations for dogs and their people. The event will also include an animal communicator, caricaturist, \$20 microchipping, pet photographer, unique merchandise and gift items for sale, kids table and much more. Dogs are welcome, but you don't need one to participate! If you're considering adding a dog or a cat to your family, you can meet homeless pets looking for "forever" homes. Registration forms are available at www.animal-advocates.org, or by calling 410-880-2488 #4. You can pre-pay your \$30 registration fee online. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged as this is the only way to guarantee receipt of the *Walk for Paws* T-shirt and bandana.

The **Horizon Foundation Community Councils and the Women's Giving Circle** are cosponsoring *Horizon Family Communication Night: Mean Girls* with expert Deborah West offering keys to understanding Queen Bees, Gamma Girls, and surviving the female social hierarchy to teens and parents. Registration is required. Ages 11 – 14 with an adult. The event will take place at:

East Columbia Branch Library	Wednesday, November 4 th	6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Central Library	Monday, November 16 th	6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Maximum registration: 40. Contact Katie George at 410-313-7778.

The **Howard County Autism Society and AMC Theatres Columbia Mall** will present a special needs movie showing of *Where the Wild Things Are* on Saturday, October 24th. Tickets may be purchased at the door and are \$6 per person. Doors open at 9:30 AM and the movie will start promptly at 10:00 AM with no trailers. The volume will be kept down and the lights will be kept up. Sensory breaks are encouraged. All families and friends with special needs are welcome. For further information, contact Marianne Ross at rossfda@hotmail.com.

The **Potomac Curling Club** will hold a youth open house where kids and teens can try the sport of Curling for free! The event will take place from 12:30 PM – 4:30 PM on Sunday, October 25th at the National Capital Curling Center (next to the Gardens Ice House) in Laurel MD. Families are welcome. For more information, visit www.curldc.org or contact training@curldc.org via email.

Registration forms are available for **Howard County Wrestling Program for Boys and Girls**. Forms are available outside MVMS front office or register online <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/rap>. For additional information contact Jean Shea, 410-313-4626 or www.howardcountywrestling.com.