

MATTAWOMAN MIDDLE  
SCHOOL

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HOURS:7:00A.M.– 2:30P.M.

# MAGIC NEWS



Mattawoman Middle School

October 2009

## Principal's Message

I want to thank all the students and staff for all of the hard work they put in during the 1st quarter. Report cards will go out on Thursday, November 5th. Parents please continue to monitor your child's agenda book and biweekly progress reports from teachers. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the individual teacher or contact the grade level guidance counselor to set up a team conference. Mattawoman's 1st Quarter Awards will be November 17th for 6th graders, November 18th for 7th graders, and November 19th for 8th graders.

The Westlake Cluster "Road Show" will be Thursday, November 12th. There will be representatives from the Mattawoman PTSO there and some great information for parents. The PTSO has been working really hard this year and would love additional support. The next PTSO meeting will be November 19th. Mattawoman's Builders Club is also sponsoring their annual food drive during the month of November. They are asking for any non-perishable food item to help fill Thanksgiving Baskets for families in need.

As the 2nd quarter is starting the calendar is filling up with a lot of great

### Important Dates

**Photo Retakes -  
10th**

**NO SCHOOL FOR  
STUDENTS 11-5,  
11-11, 11-25, 26 &  
27**

**Vision & Hearing-  
9th—13th**

**Awards Programs  
17th-6th, 18th– 7th  
& 19th-8th**

Mr. Dolan, Principal

Mr. Hanley,  
Vice principal– 6th

Mrs. Calvert,  
Vice Principal– 7th

Mrs. Caballero,  
Vice Principal-8th

Mr. Brock,  
Administrative Assis-  
tant

## PTSO

We had an incredible start to the 2009-2010 school year. We welcomed four new PTSO Officers-Teresa Nunn-President, Fatima Salaam-Vice President, Rose Roy-Treasurer and Frances Hodges-Secretary. We also welcomed a new principal-Mr. Douglass Dolan. We hit the ground running by hosting a general PTSO membership meeting on October 15th. We learned about the role and importance of the guidance office as well as we heard from a dynamic Student Council representative—Crystal Simmons.

We have a new email address:MattawomanPTSO@Gmail.com. Thanks to Nakia Minors. Finally, we had the opportunity to host a teacher and staff appreciation Baked Potato Bar on October 21st and it went off with a bang. Thanks to Carol Alsbrooks, Christina Gonzales, J. Hicks, Laurie Williams, Renee White, Shawnee Baker, T. Lloyd, Fatima Salaam & Rose Roy for helping with the luncheon.

-2nd Annual Road Show at Westlake High School—Nov. 12th @ 5:30p.m.

-PTSO has a small amount of Spirit Wear available for purchase; car magnets, nylon bags, t-shirts, sweat shirts & hooded sweat shirts. First come. First serve. Email if interested.

Next general membership meeting is Thursday November 19th at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served and door prizes given away

## 6th grade News

The 6th grade teachers continue to work hard on planning and preparing lessons that will help our students find success in school. As the first quarter comes to an end, we have seen many students doing their best to be the best students they can be. An awards program is scheduled for November 17th at 1:00 PM so that the teachers can recognize some of their students.

In an effort to continue such positive progress, the 6th grade teachers would like to remind the students and parents of several items.

- 1) Supply check—be sure students have the necessary supplies for their classes. Each student is expected to have an Agenda. If they have lost one, they can purchase a new one at the School Store. The School Store is right next to the office and students may go there as soon as they get off the bus in the mornings. It is opened during home base time.
- 2) Dress Code—review the dress code policies for appropriate shirts, tops, pants and shoes. Winter Coats—due to the small size of the lockers, bulky winter coats do not fit well. Keep this in mind as the weather turns colder.
- 3) Locker Cleanout—do your best to keep your lockers neat and organized. Be sure to take home any extra jackets or other pieces of clothing you may have in there. Look for any overdue library items and return them as soon as possible.
- 4) Math and Reading Quarterly test results—Each student will be given a printed report about the results of their Math and Reading first quarter tests. Look for these to come home and discuss the results. All teachers are striving to help our students be as successful as possible on these tests.

## 7th grade News

The month of October flew by at Mattawoman. With the 1st quarter ending, it is time for students to analyze their strengths and weaknesses and make the necessary adjustments to be successful in all of their classes. Our 1st Quarter Awards Assembly will be held on November 18, 2009, at 1:00 PM in the gym. Parents of students receiving an award this quarter will be notified.

History Day Projects have begun in Social Studies classes. All 7th graders are required to complete a History Day project. Check with your child for the upcoming due dates for status reports! Also, students enrolled in the enrichment science classes have started working on their Science Fair Projects. Check with them as well for timelines and due dates. Along with these projects, students have been busy studying many topics in their classes. In Social Studies, the focus is on Central and South America. Science classes have been examining the flow of matter and energy and are moving into ecosystems. Math topics range from organizing and displaying data to operations with fractions. Language Arts classes continue to work on comprehension skills through Greek Mythology texts. In addition to their academic classes, some students have also begun their nine-week health unit through Physical Education Classes.

Of special note, two of our 7th grade students had unique opportunities during the month of October. Christian Stewart was invited to sing the National Anthem on Friday, October 30th, at the National Forum on Character Education. Among the attendees were General Colin Powell and Dr. John M. Templeton. Crystal Simmons attended The National Young Leaders Conference held in Washington, D.C. This four-day conference focuses on building leadership skills in our future leaders. We are very proud of these students' accomplishments!

## 8th grade News

The 8th Grade Awards Program is Thursday, November 19th at 1:00 PM in the gym please plan on attending.

Dress Code—Review the dress code policies for appropriate shirts, tops, pants and shoes. Winter Coats—due to the small size of the lockers, bulky winter coats do not fit well. Keep this in mind as the weather turns colder. Also, please refer to the school code of conduct for further questions. History day projects final due date is: January 8, 2010— No late projects will be accepted.

The Can Food Drive is going on and all students and parents are encouraged to participate to help families in need in Charles County. Students can bring in can foods or non-perishable items to their homeroom. The homeroom with the highest amount will receive breakfast and the highest 8th grade homeroom will receive an ice cream party.

## 8TH grade news cont'

Supply Check—be sure students have the necessary supplies for their classes. Each student is expected to have an Agenda. If they have lost one, they can purchase a new one at the School Store. The School Store is right next to the office and students may go there as soon as they get off the bus in the mornings. It is opened during homeroom time. This week Mrs. Caballero will be conducting an agenda book check. For those students who do not have their agenda or need to purchase a new one, an e-mail will be sent out as notification of the student's missing agenda book. Locker Cleanout-do your best to keep your lockers neat and organized. Be sure to take home any extra jackets or other pieces of clothing you may have in there. Look for any overdue library items and return them as soon as possible.

## STUDENT COUNCIL

### How Do You Feel?

Mattawoman's Student Council is feeling good since we have taken care of important business matters since September. We held elections and here are our officers for 2009-2010: Mercedes Allen—President, Crystal Simmons— Vice President, Samiya Troxler-Secretary, Jazmine Johnson-Treasurer, Emily Rawson and Byron Cantillano—Historians and Tia Grant, Logan Levi and Mica Ashline-Sergeant at Arms.

Our Constitution and Point System were reviewed and discussed. Some amendments were made and then they were approved. Our Constitution includes academic, behavioral and participation expectations. After reviewing the lyrics for six different songs, we voted on our theme song. This year's theme song will be "Man in the Mirrow" by Michael Jackson. The lyrics emphasize making a difference in the world by examining yourself first and the community around you.

Ten members attended the county meeting held at LaPlata High School on Friday, October 9th and several members are planning to attend the Middle School Leadership Conference on Saturday, November 14th. We had a Car Wash as a fundraiser on Tuesday, October 20th which turned out to be a very fun way to make some money! We plan to have another Car Wash sometime this year.

On November 21st, our members will be encouraged to participate in the Walk to End Homelessness in Charles County. Members from Mattawoman's NJHS, FEA and SADD have also participated in this important community event.

Our future business matters include giving out Suggestion Slips in home bases so we can get feedback from students at Mattawoman about any concerns or suggestions they have. We also have a few ideas that we will propose to Principal Dolan.

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The music department would like to congratulate the following students for their acceptance in the Charles County Honors groups:

**BAND**-Emily Staudmyer-clarinet, Alexa Bungato-alto saxophone, Taylor Johnson-alternate bass clarinet, Joshue Hall-alternate Alto saxophone

**Chorus**-Vince Myles-baritone, Dominique Marsh-baritone, DAndre Lopez-baritone, Darrell Rice-baritone, David Rice-baritone, Jason Hamilton-baritone, Christian Stewart-baritone, Eliana Lopez-soprano, Tatum Campos-soprano, Kelly Fox-soprano, Alexandra Winnegar-soprano, Tiffany Horne-soprano, Tiara Brown-soprano, Miranda Scoggins-alto, Angela Alexander-alto, Kylie Green-alto, Zaysha Waters-alto, Tierra Marbray-alto

**Orchestra**-Crystal Simmons-violin, Ben Abshire-violin, Maya Coleman-violin, Devin Brown-violin, Alana Johnson-violin, Alyssa Raqueno-violin, Destini Monk-violin, CheBreia Gibs-violin, Rose Sciaratta-violin, Shannon Johnson-violin, Danielle Able-violin

The music department will perform patriotic selections at grade level award assemblies during school in November. The orchestra will play at the sixth grade assembly on November 17th. The chorus will sing at the seventh grade assembly on November 18th. The band will play at the eighth grade assembly on November 19th.

The groups will present winter concerts in the beginning of December. Attend the chorus concert on Tuesday, December 1st at 7:00 PM in the MMS Gymnasium, the orchestra concert on Wednesday, December 9th at 7:30 PM in the MMS Gymnasium and the band concert on Thursday, December 10th at 7:00 PM in the Westlake HS auditorium.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION CITIZENS ADVISORY

The Charles County Special Education Advisory Committee (SECAC) is for all parents and guardians of children with special education needs who have IEP's (Individualized Education Programs). This group enables the Director of Special Education to seek meaningful input from parents, community partners, service providers, and school administrators on local issues relative to the provision of a free appropriate public education and the achievement of students with disabilities.

Our SECAC Meeting Schedule for this school year is as follows:

December 2, 2009

January 20, 2010

March 17, 2010

May 19, 2010.

SECAC meetings will be held in the Board Room at the Starkey Administration Building at 6:30PM.

The 5th Annual SECAC Teacher and Staff Award Ceremony will be held Wednesday, April 28, 2010, at 7:00 PM at the Waldorf Jaycees Hall.

## PE AND HEALTH

The Health and Physical Education Department will be conducting the annual Basketball Hoops for Heart Fundraiser for the American Heart Association. The event will consist of a 4-on-4 basketball tournament on Monday, November 23rd, with the championship games played on Tuesday, November 24th. Additionally, a "HOT SHOT" competition will take place on Tuesday, November 24th. All events will be held during Health/Physical Education classes on these two days.

1st Block—7:35-9:00 AM—6th grade, 2nd Block—9:06—10:25 AM—7th grade, 3rd Block-11:06AM-12:30 PM—8th grade.

The cost is \$5.00 per person (\$20.00 team) for the 4 -on-4 tournament and \$5.00 per person for the "HOT SHOT" competition.

Students can participate in both events if they choose. Checks should be made payable to: The American Heart Association.

The Health/PE Department is coordinating efforts with the other Related Arts classes (band, chorus, orchestra, technical education, computers, art) for the opportunity to act as spectators during their class time. As more information is determined, it will be made available.

Thank you for supporting our Health/Physical Education Department in our efforts to raise funds for the American Heart Association.

