

A Note from Principal Duff

Dear Parents,

- This year, in accordance with district procedure, a \$100.00 fee, per sport, per child, has been required for students who participate in MTA after school sports programs. This is a district fee that covers transportation to and from sporting events and salaries for coaches, referees and site athletic directors. If you have taken advantage of the tax credit program, and have dedicated the tax credit towards general or athletics, you may show Anne your documentation and use this as a credit to cover your child's athletic fee. In addition, by participating in tax credit, MTA, in addition to the Guild's generosity, has been able to purchase team and cheerleader uniforms and sports equipment for our teams as well. MTA had an increase in athletic needs this year, due to the addition of Varsity teams for girls and boys and due to the addition of new activities from past years (cross country and flag football). The best part of all, you receive a 100% tax refund on your income tax. It's a win-win for MTA students and you!
- Wednesday, December 14th and December 21st are full school days. Students and staff will be observing Monday specials (PE, Art, Music, Library) on December 14th and Friday specials on the 21st.
- Friday, December 23rd, is an 11:30 student dismissal.

Sincerely,

Mike Duff

Principal

Important Dates & Events

12/14 Wednesday
Full Day Schedule 3:00 release
(10:50 for a.m. Kindergarten)

12/16 - Friday
MTA T-shirt Day

12/16 - Friday
7th & 8th grade Winter Dance
6:00-8:00pm
MTA Cafeteria



12/21 - Wednesday
Full Day -3:00 release
(10:50 for a.m. Kindergarten)

12/23 - Friday
Half-Day 11:30a.m. release
(8:50 for a.m. Kindergarten)
MTA T-shirt Day

12/24-1/8
Winter Break - NO SCHOOL

1/9 - Monday
School resumes

1/9 - Monday
Guild Meeting 6:30pm
MTA Cafeteria

1/13 - Friday
Teacher Appreciation Breakfast,
7:00 a.m.
Hosted by 3rd grade parents

1/16 - Monday
MLK Jr. Day - NO SCHOOL



Important Announcements

Dec. 9, 2011
Vol. 5, No. 16

Congratulations to our new NJHS officers:

President: Drew Hernandez
Vice President: Christian Burgoyne
Treasurer: Sean Miller
Secretary: Thomas Albin
Historian: Zack McCarthy

Fifteen MTA students were inducted into National Junior Honor Society on Dec. 2nd.
Great job!!!



Health Hoots

Influenza reminders- Get Your Flu Shot!

Here are several informative websites and sources that provide some guidance for you and your family during this flu season:

[Children, the flu, and the flu vaccine: a CDC guideline](#)

[CDC Flu guide for parents](#)

For more information on influenza and H1N1 prevention, treatment and symptoms:

[FAQ regarding flu and H1N1](#)

Please remember the 24 hour rule of thumb!:

Students may return to school after:

- 24 hours without temperature (and without taking fever reducing medications such as Tylenol or Advil/Motrin)
- 24 hours without nausea, vomiting, diarrhea (and tolerating a normal diet)
- 24 hours of receiving medication (such as antibiotics, eye ointments)

Item of the week: New or gently used jackets, long sleeve shirts, pants (uniform standards)

Staci and Meagan
MTA Health Office
(602) 745-4020



Today is the last day of the Book Fair!!!

Online Ordering is going on NOW through Dec. 12. Go to our link <http://onlinebookfairs.scholastic.com/default.aspx?f=2977664> to order.

Today's Hours -

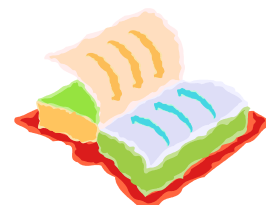
Friday, Dec 9

7:00 - 8:00 am

10:30 am - 2:00 pm

3:00 - 6:00 pm

*** During lunch recess, students shopping must be accompanied by an adult.



Mrs. Kristy Koopman (Art),

WHOOOOOOO ARE YOU?

Where are you from? I grew up (mostly) in California, my family moved here when I was in high school.

Where did you go to school/college? I am a Sun Devil! I have 3 degrees from ASU and will be walking again in December for my latest degree (finished this past summer).

What was your inspiration to become a teacher? I started by volunteering at my daughter's pre-school and the teachers there actually suggested that I consider teaching. I really enjoy being with our students and seeing them succeed; it's a privilege to be a part of that success.

How long have you been teaching? I am in my second year of teaching, both at MTA.

What is your favorite thing about your job? When the kids ask me questions and challenge me to think outside the box in class. They have great ideas and I know they are engaged and interested in what we're learning.

Why did you choose working at the elementary/middle school level? I love little kids, and my elective kids are great too (even though most of them are taller than me!). The age range we have at MTA is perfect for me and I think having kids of my own helps me relate to them.

What do you do when you're not working? When I'm not teaching I am spending time with my kids Lucy (age 7) and Max (just turned 4) and my husband George. We love to go to the zoo, the science center, movies and of course - the museums in town! Lucy is in Mrs. Klees' class and it's great to have her right next door!

What are your favorite books? Well, I love any kind of art book (of course) and history/biographies would be tied for second. I also love a good mystery or scary story!

What is your favorite food? Gosh-I have so many! I love sushi, pizza, all breakfast foods, anything from Pita Jungle and ice cream!





1st Grade Music Program

Ms. Fastero, Ms. Wolf and Mrs. Tucker's children put on an adorable winter-themed show on Tuesday night. The children were so good, and thank you to Music teacher Carol Virolainen for putting it all together.



Great job, kids!



REMEMBER: As you are cleaning out unused, outdated or broken electronics due to Holiday gift giving, remember to bring in those old cell phones, laptops, digital cameras, video games and consoles to MTA. Please put them in the CFK recycling tub located in the Guild Work Room.

Below is a complete list of items that MTA is recycling for cash back:

Cell phones and PDAs
Laser cartridges
Ink jet cartridges
Laptops
I-pods
Video games and consoles
Digital cameras

DVDs
GPS devices
Calculators
I-Pads
Tablets
eReaders



Big News!!

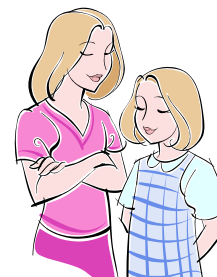
MTA earned \$500 from Fry's! As of 11/28/11, MTA has spent \$70,810 and we have 101 VIP cards connected to MTA.

Thanks for your support. MTA parents, you are amazing!

Do you have a sibling heading to MTA for the 2012-2013 school year?

Please send Anne Grass a quick e-mail with their name and next year's grade so that she can send you the sibling enrollment paperwork. Siblings will get priority enrollment ahead of the general public, space permitting. (Enrollment for the general public begins February 4th.) Remember that sibling enrollment (and continuing student enrollment) is contingent upon compliance with the Family Commitment Form (including volunteer hour requirements).

Anne Grass
(602)745-4001
agrass@msd38.org





Holiday Shopping at the eScrip online mall!

Shop online and earn money for MTA. Go to escrip.com and click on the online mall. This website offers a variety of stores and lists the donation amounts to the school. Whether you order school uniform clothes, or holiday gifts, go to this website first and MTA gets a donation!

Shop such stores as:

Macy's, Nordstrom, Crate & Barrel, Clinique, Pottery Barn, Walmart, Lands End, Gap, Old Navy, Amazon, Apple Store, Toys R' Us and Shutterfly.....just to name a few!!!

