



MCST BROADCAST

Volume II, Issue 3

May 2010

UPCOMING EVENTS

Graduation/Completers Ceremony
June 18th @ 6:30 pm
at the County College of Morris

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A Message from the Editorial Staff

“Success is not the key to happiness.
Happiness is the key to success,
If you love what you are doing, you will be successful.”

Albert Schweitzer

The Editorial Staff,
Carrie, Debbie, Gina, and Jen



Teacher of the Year Mary Rooney

Named MCST Teacher of the Year for the 2009-2010 school year.

Mrs. Rooney is a Culinary Arts Instructor who has been teaching at MCST for 33 years.

She has been instrumental in the success of the culinary program and stays current in the culinary arts to make sure the students are well prepared for additional training or college after graduation.

Congratulations, Mary !

Meet the Mathematics Department

With over 58 years of total teaching experience among its members, MCST's Mathematics Department is greater than the sum of its parts! They strive to make math relevant and applicable to students' lives by adding the best aspects of project-based learning to a traditional math curriculum; truly "one in a million," our Math Department can be counted on to provide students with the skills they need to be successful.

Sheila Arakelian – enjoys bringing her real world experience in industry into MCST's math and computer science classrooms. Enjoys reading, practicing yoga, spending time with her extended family, and going to the beach.

Laura Dessel – When not sharing her love of, and excitement for, mathematics with her students, Laura's favorite pastime is spending time with her family. She also enjoys watching baseball and is learning to play golf.

Tim Gordon – A real Renaissance man, Tim not only loves math and puzzles but also soft kittens and literature. Currently working on a translation of Aristophanes' *The Knights* from ancient Greek, Tim also loves running fitness trails.

Kathleen Harrington – believes that math must be connected to our lives to be meaningful. When not helping students master this subject, she enjoys travelling, eating new foods, and walking.

Laura Ingrassia – Beyond being dedicated to her profession, Laura also enjoys yoga, quilting, hiking, scrapbooking, and the company of her two dogs and cat.

Lori Landsberg-Chang – Inside the classroom, Lori connects the study of mathematics to global issues to help students better understand the world around them. Outside the classroom, she enjoys running and biking.



Left to right: Tim Gordon, Sheila Arakelian, Laura Ingrassia, Laura Dessel, Kathleen Harrington and Lori Landsberg-Chang

Where Are They Now...



Tom Villante, owner of 53 Grill in Denville, has owned and operated his delicatessen for four years. Tom graduated from Morris County School of Technology in 1989 after studying Culinary Arts under the guidance of Chef Weiss and Chef Keidel. His great interest and dedication to culinary arts has provided him with opportunities to explore many facets of the field. Upon graduation, he attended the Culinary Institute of America to pursue a two-year degree. Then, he worked as a pastry chef at a restaurant in Clifton and later at the Sheraton in Parsippany. He was most enthusiastic when sharing his experiences as a catering manager at Giants Stadium where he got to meet the Giants, Jets, and Devils players, along with many musicians, such as Dave Matthews. Tom had gotten to experience just about every part of the field, though he had never owned his own place. When an opportunity to buy the delicatessen across from his old school arose, he and his wife had to make a very big decision. Ultimately, they decided to take a leap, and 53 Grill was born. The deli features many home-made salads, soups, dressings, and spreads as well as hot and cold sandwiches made fresh to order. In addition to their regular menu they have daily specials where they feature their creative ideas with items that you can not find anywhere else. They even have a deli case which is full of Thumman's cold cuts and a variety of cheeses.

Tom has also employed several graduates and current students of MCST. He shared, "Of the graduates from Morris County School of Technology that have worked here, I can say that I have been impressed with their eagerness to learn and gather experience. This year we have, for the first time, employed one of your current Culinary Arts students for his internship. This has been a great experience. We would love to have more students complete their internship here at The 53 Grill. But I must say that the current intern has set the bar very high with his professionalism and creativeness."

Tom's advice for MCST's future graduates is, "No matter what, culinary arts or any other vocation, you really have to love it. There's going to be tough times, but the love of what you're doing is going to carry you through."

MCST wishes you continued success, Tom.

Spanish Language Program

The Spanish classes at MCST are doing a great job utilizing technology as Spanish teachers, Melissa Sevola, Ruben Rosado, and Jessica Griffin have embraced various new methods in their classrooms this year. All of the students have access to teachers' homework sites, which include Blogs, Power Point presentations, videos, podcasts, practice sites, useful links, etc. Students have also used technologies such as Prezi, YouTube, and Movie Maker to enhance their understanding of Spanish. Additionally, they watch authentic shows and read articles and literature in Spanish both in print and online. The advanced students recently created public service announcement presentations as another example of utilizing technology. All of the Spanish classrooms have SMART boards, and teachers have been using those to engage the students in different activities. By the end of the year, Rosado, Griffin, and Sevola anticipate that all students will utilize a variety of technology to create review projects for their classmates, which will also be posted as reference on the teachers' sites.

Spanish teacher Melissa Sevola says, "I see technology as an additional tool in learning which helps us to teach to the different learning modalities. For example, I will give my students an introduction to a topic with some notes, post those notes on my site, reinforce with a power point that is accessible at my site, provide sites for online practice on the topic, plus post videos and/or podcasts of the same topic so that all my learners have a better chance to learn. That's all in addition to the oral work that the kids do in class, whether it's paired activities, role-plays, or anything else when the kids are using the language. I always tell my students to see it, say it, hear it, and write it to utilize as many senses as possible to aid them in their learning".

Ruben Rosado explains that his Spanish I's used Prezi to describe locations in a town; "They used the vocabulary in the chapter and visuals on prezi.com to navigate classmates through their project".

In addition to using technology, the Spanish teachers utilize a variety of creative assignments to keep students engaged. Jessica Griffin's Spanish One classes have just finished creating "tarjetas postales". Students designed, stamped, & addressed postcards and then wrote about the weather, activities, and places they visited while on vacation.

All three teachers agree that they use technology not just because it's "in", but because it helps engage their students and it supports them in their learning.

Clubs & Activities

National Technical Honor Society

The National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) has partnered with MCST's Eat Smart Move More Committee to assist in the planning of exciting activities for students and faculty incorporating healthy eating and fitness concepts during the 3rd annual Eat Smart Move More Week, which will be held May 10th -14th. NTHS helped with planning in Fruit Testing competition, and making posters for Pounds for Pantry Food Drive. Additionally, NTHS promoted the week and is encouraging students to participate in activities,

SkillsUSA

The 2010 SkillsUSA State Championships took place on Saturday, May 8th. Students competed at the following venues:

3D Animation, Architectural Drafting, Computer Maintenance Technology, Internetworking

Advertising Design, Collision Repair Technology, Diesel Equipment Technology, First Aid/CPR, Graphic Communications, Job Interview, Custom Automotive Painting, Ornamental Iron Design, Video Production, Video Project Development, Welding and Welding Art Sculpture

Automotive, Construction, Carpentry, Commercial Baking, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Esthetics, Nail Care, Residential Wiring, TeamWorks and Wedding Cake Decorating

Quiz Bowl Competition and Employment Application Process

Open & Closing Ceremonies

Sports

Morris County School of Technology welcomed a bowling team last year, and the program has been growing ever since!

This year, the team's senior player, Lenard Bangug, placed third in the high series in the NJAC first round league tournament. Led by coach, Kevin Condron, the team hopes to continue improving their scores next year, as they start their third season here at MCST!



MCST Quotes

"The best thing about my Academy/Program is...

...making and eating the food!"

Jon Franchini
Grade 10
Academy for Culinary Arts

... the hands on learning where we work with actual medical supplies and have fun!"

Elizabeth Keuch
Grade 10
Academy for Healthcare Science

...being able to do what I love while expressing my creativity, as well as having amazing friends by my side."

Meagan Montesano
Grade 11
Academy for Child Related Careers

Student Internships with the Business Community

All students, in their senior year, are required to complete a 10-credit internship (aka structured learning experience). This involves the completion of a minimum of 160 internship hours (100 hours for MSE Academy) to be completed at an approved worksite.

Internship worksites give students experience in the workplace with opportunities to learn from observing and working alongside professionals in each student's chosen field, applying and deepening the skills developed through course work and developing new workplace skills.

Mr. Keidel, Structured Learning Coordinator, assists students in identifying possible sites, however students are encouraged to identify their own sites. A few current and past internship sites include: law offices, police departments, Picatinny Arsenal, pharmaceutical companies, hospitals, the Morris Museum, school's, restaurants, salons and spas, doctors offices and dance studios.

Internships benefit the students, school and employers. This provides MCST the opportunity to partner with businesses and build relationships within the community while students are gaining practical skills in an area of career interest. Additionally, employers develop potential pool of trained workers.

Recently, the MCST annual School/Business partnership award was presented to John Czarecki, owner, Intex Commercial Door Systems, a Hollow Metal, Wood Door and Architectural Hardware distributor located in Randolph.



Pictured from left: David Keidel, Structured Learning Coordinator; John Czarecki, Intex; and Scott Moffitt, Assistant Superintendent

Intex has been actively involved with the Internship program for over three years., placing students in various positions within the company. Students from welding have worked in the production area for the construction of commercial grade steel doors and frames and finance and international business students have worked in areas of bookkeeping, accounting and payroll.

Student of the Month

February

Sarah Braviak is a junior currently enrolled in the Academy for Visual and Performing Arts as a Dance major. She participates in both the National Technical Honor Society and Dance Honor Society and is involved in the Drama Club.

March

Vincent Simonetti is a senior currently enrolled in the Academy for Networking Information Technology and Communications. He has displayed leadership skills in bringing a new elective to the school, Introduction to Game Programming.

April

Aida Rodriguez is a junior currently enrolled in the Cosmetology program. She is enthusiastic and dedicated and always performs above and beyond the expected. Aida loves to read and has been involved with SkillsUSA.

MCST Mission Statement

The Morris County Vocational School District, the source for state-of-the-art professional and technical education, will provide all students with the academic skills for proficiency in the Core Curriculum Content Standards, technical skills, civic responsibility and exploration in partnerships with business, labor, industry and post - secondary institutions.

Honors Policy Change

This year, we have implemented a new policy guiding entrance into the honors program at the Academies on the Denville Campus. This policy does **not** apply to Math, Science and Engineering or Law and Public Safety students. The new policy and procedures affect primarily incoming 9th graders.

The new policy requires incoming 9th grade students to fill out an Honors Program Student Questionnaire and get teacher recommendations in order to be admitted to honors level courses in Biology, English, Geometry and Social Studies. Students can apply to one, two, three or all four honors courses. In addition to reviewing the Student Questionnaire and recommendations, the teachers who evaluate the applications will also consider course grades, standardized test scores and Accuplacer test results from the admissions process. Those students who apply for Honors Geometry will also have to sit for a placement test. All application materials are available on the district website and students are given further directions through a mailing and during the scheduling conference. The honors applications review committee prefers application materials be submitted digitally via email to honors@mcvts.org.

Students who meet the requirement for the honors courses to which they have applied will automatically be scheduled for those courses. Those who do not meet the minimum requirement will be scheduled for our regular, college preparatory-level academic courses. The purpose of the policy change is to best place students in courses where they will have the most academic success. Since Morris County School of Technology admits students from districts in every town in Morris County, students come to us with a wide variety of academic experiences. The Honors Program Policy and application procedure will insure that students who take honors-level classes have the proven track record and drive to be successful in courses with high rigor and academic expectations.

If you have any questions regarding the Honors Program Policy, please contact Shari Castelli at 973-627-4600 extension 206 or preferably through email at castellis@mcvts.org.

Advisory Council

An Advisory Committee is a group of employers and employees, from higher education, trade unions, professional organizations or parents and alumni, who collectively guide our institution in its efforts to develop and maintain progressive educational programs. These individuals represent a broad cross-section of management, industry, professional, employer and community groups. Through their active participation, members demonstrate a sincere interest in advancing the Mission of the Morris County School of Technology.

Advisory Committee serves a vital role in keeping vocational program relevant, dynamic and on the cutting edge of technology. This can only be achieved with a close working relationship between the school and the community.

Members help to assess occupational needs, review curriculum, identify emerging occupations and technologies, evaluate programs, promote community relations, establish standards for professional development, evaluate facilities and equipment for specific career programs and serve as a liaison between the school and business/industry.

Morris County School of Technology holds two meetings per year, Fall and Spring. Nearly 100 members attended the Spring meeting, representing a few of the following companies: American Animal Hospital, Aidekman Research Center, Borbas Surveying & Mapping, BMW of North America, Brickford Theatre at the Morris Museum, Cerbo Lumber and Hardware, County College of Morris, Dover Business College, Franciscan Oaks Life Center, Merry Heart Nursing Home, NJIT College of Architecture and Design, Rutgers Univerty, Toys R Us, UPS and Whole Foods Market.

Students benefit from many efforts that members offer aside from serving on the committee. They provide student internships, volunteer as a guest speaker, sponsor a scholarship, and/or offer job shadowing opportunities.

Members are rewarded from recognition by students, parents and community members, pride in promoting their profession, and the building of professional relationships with bright and energetic future members of the workforce.

If you are interested in becoming an Advisory Council member, please contact Fred Finck at 973-627-4600 ext. 202 or through email at finckf@mcvts.org.

Morris County School of Technology is truly appreciative of the time and efforts of the members.

Thank you Advisory Committee Members!

Resource Center Study Skills Program

The Resource Center Study Skills program that Mr. Havas, Resource Instructor, instructs provides students innovative learning opportunities. He inspires individual ownership for learning and high levels of achievement are expected. Students collaboratively interact with each other while working in groups and a variety of guest speakers are incorporated to enhance learning.

During May, Special Education was highlighted by the Child Study Team and Resource Teachers with focus on a parent workshop, "How to Help Your Student Succeed in High School", classroom visits from the Child Study Team and Structured Learning Coordinator, a presentation to students by Michael Fowlin, and a study skills class piloted a "Student-led IEP Program" using multimedia presentations.



Pictured: Mr. Havas works with students through comparing influences of Spencer Johnson's *The One Minute Manager* to newly assigned independent readings in Language Arts classes. Students isolated specific traits seen in themselves from Johnson's work and connected areas of both weakness and strength to their roles as leaders - in self-management and essential skills in managing others.

Grade 12 Option/College Credits

Students enrolled in The Academies may earn college credit for Academy coursework through articulations established with higher education partners and by participating in the Grade 12 Option with County College of Morris or Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Articulation Agreements

Students earn tuition free college credits from participating partner colleges and universities completing high school courses as part of their graduation requirements. Some articulation agreements guarantee college admission to qualifying seniors. These credits may be applied toward a degree program at the partner college or university or transferred to the student's college or university of choice.

Grade Twelve College Options

The Challenger Program and Grade Twelve Initiative Program afford qualifying seniors the opportunity to take college courses, tuition free at the County College of Morris. School permission will be given only to those students who are in good academic standing (3.0 grade point average or better) and who also meet specified college entrance requirements.

Students may earn up to 22 college credits as part of the Grade 12 Option.

Credit Transferability

Academy graduates are attending many colleges and universities, transferring their college credits earned while in high school to begin their college studies as sophomores. Transferring credits is at the discretion of the college or university.

Graduates attending:

American University
Boston College
Boston University
Bucknell University
College of New Jersey
Cornell University
County College of Morris
Dartmouth University
Delhi College of Technology
Drexel University
Embry-Riddle University
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Johnson and Wales University
Johnson College
Lehigh University
Muhlenberg University
New Jersey Institute of Technology
New York University
Pennsylvania College of Technology
Philadelphia School of the Arts
Princeton University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rutgers University
Seton Hall University
Stevens Institute
Swarthmore College
Tufts University
University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ
Vassar College
Virginia Polytechnic Institute

Award of Merit in the New Jersey State PTA Reflections Film Production Contest

JiYeon Rim,
Academy for
Networking Information
Technology and
Communications

Alex Claas,
Academy for
Networking Information
Technology and
Communications

MCST MONOPOLIZES HOSA STATES!

Students in the Academy for Health Care Sciences competed at HOSA State competition in Camden and won numerous awards!

1st place medals
awarded - 7

2nd place medals
awarded - 3

3rd place medals
awarded - 6

4th place medal
awarded - 1

Congratulations,
students and teachers,
Mrs. Porash and Mrs.
Donahue on remarkable
accomplishments!

GREASE - MCST's First Musical

MCST's first musical, GREASE, was a huge success including cast and crew of MCST students and faculty. Music directors Mike LeRose and David Stasiak utilized digital music recording technology, while video projection designer James Daher, in collaboration with lighting designer Erin O'Brien utilized cutting edge digital video software Isadora to enable us to look at Grease through a digital lens!

Sets were constructed in-house in by students of Bruce Feakins in Building Construction and Scott Weems in Carpentry and air brushing of Greased Lightning by students of Lou Rosso in Auto Body. Kari Constantine, professional performer in musical theater, served as choreographer. Lillian Borno, mother of MCST alum and current VPA student Anthony Borno designed 50's costumes and props for a cast of 30 students.

Barbara Stasiak, Multimedia teacher and VPA Multimedia students created graphic designs for the Grease Playbill and poster to give MCST its own visual stamp to this timeless piece of classic rock-n-roll musical theater.

Staffed by in-house and off-campus artistic and technical directors and their students: Mike LeRose, music director, David Stasiak, vocal director, Kari Constantine, choreographer, Irene Fitzpatrick director, Erin O'Brien lighting designer, James Daher, set and video projections designer, Barbara Stasiak, publicity and set director, Ruth Clark, house manager, Keith Azzolina, technical consultant, Dana Dandino, makeup & hair director, Lillian Borno costume and prop designer, Bruce Feakins, Scott Weems, set construction, Louis Rosso, Greased Lightning air brushing,, Mary Rooney, Gina McNeill, concessions directors, Ray Nutkis, ticket sales and publicity photo director.



Visual & Performing Arts Performance Calendar

Visit the VPA webpage
at
www.mcvt.org/vpa

MCST BROADCAST

Student Achievements

Student Award for Artistic Excellence & Leadership in Dance

Statewide Award Winner, Anthony Fania
Honorable Mention, Jessica Mantell

Anthony Fania, a junior in the Academy for Visual & Performing Arts received statewide recognition for Artistic Excellence & Leadership in Dance. Anthony is one of two award winners statewide.

Jessica Mantell, also a junior in the Academy for Visual & Performing Arts was awarded an Honorable Mention.

Both Anthony and Jessica will be honored at the Governor's Awards in Arts Education Ceremony and they also received the unusual honor of an invitation by the NJ Student Award Selection Committee to compete at the national adjudication by the National Dance Education Organization in DC.

The Student Award for Artistic Excellence and Leadership in Dance is one of the annual Governor's Awards in Arts Education, and is sponsored by Dance New Jersey, the official state affiliate of the National Dance Education Organization (NDEO). Applicants are evaluated on the basis of their artistry and technical excellence in dance and their leadership in dance within the classroom or the community. Awardees also must be a New Jersey high school junior or senior with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Only two award recipients are chosen annually by the Student Award Selection Committee to represent New Jersey.



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