

MRH Earns "Distinction in Performance"

District sees tremendous improvement in state test scores

Last month, the State of Missouri released school district data that included test scores and other assessment indicators like attendance and graduation rates. The bottom line? MRH has a lot to celebrate. Quite a lot.

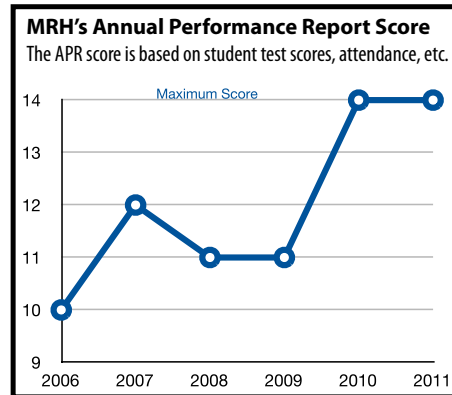
"I am thrilled to see all the hard work of our students and teachers paying off," said Superintendent **Linda Henke**. "The MRH community should be very proud of their schools."

Looking at the Missouri Assessment Program (or MAP test), one of the most striking results is the fact that MRH saw the greatest increase in the number of students scoring pro-

ficient or advanced in both communication arts and mathematics, from 50% in 2010 to 60% in 2011. This was a greater increase than all other districts, more than 50, in over six counties including St. Louis County, St. Charles, Jefferson, Warren, Franklin, and Lincoln.

In addition, MRH earned the highest score of 14 on the state's Annual Performance Report, which measures performance standards based on student achievement, Missouri state testing scores, ACT entrance exams, and more. This means MRH qualifies for the "Annual Distinction in Performance Award." This is the second straight year MRH earned a 14 score.

Another result worth crowing about is at the high school level, where MRH High School was recognized for achieving all the state's Annual Yearly Progress goals. Only four high schools in St. Louis County and St. Charles County met all the goals, and MRH was one of them. (The others were Brentwood, Lindbergh, and Valley Park.) Principal **Kevin Grawer** had praise for both students and



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Top 12 Most Improved Districts

DISTRICT	2010	2011	INCREASE
MRH	50	60	10
Crystal City	44	53	9
Affton	52	58	6
Franklin Co.	54	60	6
Festus	65	70	5
Jefferson Co.	61	66	5
Windsor	60	65	5
Brentwood	69	73	4
Hancock Place	42	46	4
Silex	46	50	4
Special Sch. Dist.	49	53	4
Spring Bluff	62	66	4

St. Louis area districts ranked by increase in percentage of students scoring advanced or proficient in both math and communication arts on the MAP test. Source: Siltoday.com

Big Changes in Health and Fitness Programs

New curriculum and equipment help K-12 students become "fit for life"

The mission of the Maplewood Richmond Heights School District is to inspire and prepare students as leaders, scholars, stewards and citizens for a diverse and changing world.



MRH Elementary P.E. teacher **Bill Cordia** instructs **Mariah Jones** and **Jonathan Schaffner** on some of the school's new fitness machines.

The health and well being of students has been a top priority at MRH. In recent years, that emphasis has been on diet and nutrition, with programs like healthy lunches and Seed to Table. Starting this year, the healthy approach is expanding into physical education and fitness classes with an updated curriculum and new equipment. Even technology will have a role.

Assistant Superintendent **Karen Hall** noted that physical fitness complements healthy eating. "Our goal is to develop a coordinated school health model for the entire district," she said.

Tom Kulla-Abbott, dean of students at MRH Middle School and a member of the district's Wellness Committee, said the goal is to improve student success in the classroom. "The more in shape the body is, the better in balance the brain is," he said.

Kulla-Abbott cited the work of Dr. John Ratey, author of *Spark: The Revolutionary New Science of Exercise and the Brain*. In it, Ratey documents how aerobic exercise physically remodels the brain for peak performance. Being physically fit is also a great tool

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MRH SCHOOL DISTRICT

7539 Manchester Road
Maplewood, MO 63143
(314) 644-4400, Fax: (314) 781-3160
www.mrbsd.org

MRH BOARD OF EDUCATION

Maria Langston, President
Lamar Agard, Vice President
Nelson Mitten, Treasurer
Brooke Rintoul, Secretary
Francis Chmelir, Director
Julie Pole, Director
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The MRH Board of Education meets the third Thursday of every month in the High School Library/Media Center. For a list of upcoming meetings or to view past meeting minutes, visit www.mrbsd.org and click on the Board of Education link.



MRH Board of Education members (seated, left to right) Ralph Posley, Maria Langston, Brooke Rintoul and (standing, left to right) Nelson Mitten, Julie Pole, Francis Chmelir, and Lamar Agard.

MRH CENTRAL OFFICE

Linda Henke, Superintendent
Karen Hall, Assistant Superintendent
Kay Lesley, Chief Financial Officer
Beth Rowland, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Tom Wickersham, Director of Communications

The Maplewood Richmond Heights School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to District programs may be directed to the Title IX Coordinator, MRH School District, 7539 Manchester Road, Maplewood, MO 63143; telephone number 314-644-4400.

On the cover: MRH High School students (L-R) Marquise White, Mariah Flores, and Lindsey Emmel examine replicas of artifacts from prehistoric Meso-America with social studies teacher Robert Welker.

Construction Projects On Schedule

Two construction projects at MRH schools got underway this summer. Both are moving forward according to plans.

The MRH Early Childhood Center is renovating and expanding its north wing, which holds the school's cafeteria and gymnasium. When complete, the space will have an updated kitchen, a combined gym/cafe, and even a new teaching kitchen. The project is expected to wrap up in late December.

At the Middle/High School, crews are working on putting in a new parking lot just north of the building. The smaller and dilapidated lot next to the school will be removed and replaced

See plans for the projects at
www.mrbsd.org/construction

with a more inviting entryway/courtyard space. This project is expected to be completed in late October.

District officials thank parents, visitors, and neighbors for their patience while the normal routines at

these schools are adjusted during the construction. Alternative parking options for both schools are outlined on the district's website at www.mrbsd.org.

Funding for this work was made possible by the passage of Proposition Y in April of 2010.



The north wing of the Early Childhood Center will expand by about 20 feet.

Are You New or Expecting Parents?

Parents as Educators is a free parent education and support program serving MRH families from pregnancy through a child's entry into kindergarten. Parent educators provide information about child development, parenting practices, and community resources, plus offering developmental and health screenings. Additionally, PAT hosts family events, playgroups, and parenting workshops throughout the year. For more information contact Julie Sztukowski (314-378-1774; j.sztukowski@mrbsd.k12.mo.us) or Allegra Grawer

(314-378-7145; a.grawer@mrbsd.k12.mo.us). For information on the Parents Day Out program contact Angie Moser at a.moser@mrbsd.k12.mo.us.

READ FROM THE START

Nov. 3 & 10 at 6:00 p.m.

MRH Early Childhood Center

The free, two-session program explores seven great children's books and many reading techniques to engage young children. Childcare and food is provided. Plus, take home seven free books at the end of the program.

For more information or to arrange transportation, contact Allegra Grawer at (314) 378-7145.

Changes to the MRH Administration Team

The 2011-2012 school year began with two new faces to the MRH administration team, and one departure.

The day-to-day operations of the MRH School District are guided by the administration council, a 19-member team comprised of district directors and building principals. The council welcomed two new members to the team this year: **Jessica Green**, Administrative Intern at the early childhood center, and **Malcolm Hill**, Director of Athletics at the high school.

Green, who is also the ESOL teacher for the district, has over 14 years of education experience including teaching kindergarten through eighth grade. Green has taught in Texas, Ohio, and Missouri. She holds a master's in education administration and human resource management from Lindenwood University.

Hill joined MRH after 17 years in the Normandy District serving in various

capacities, most recently as the athletic director/assistant principal. He has degrees in special education and social studies from UMSL and graduate degrees in curriculum and instruction from National Lewis University and educational administration from Lindenwood. Hill has earned a number of accolades including Coach of the Year, Apple Teacher of the Year, and the eMINTS Technology Teacher of the Year.

Tom Wickersham has left MRH to pursue his own business. During his two and a half years as Director of Communications, Wickersham has reshaped the communications program for the district, upgrading newsletters, adding a Key Communicators group, and most recently creating a new website (see article, page 4). "Tom has been integral to the work we have



Green



Hill

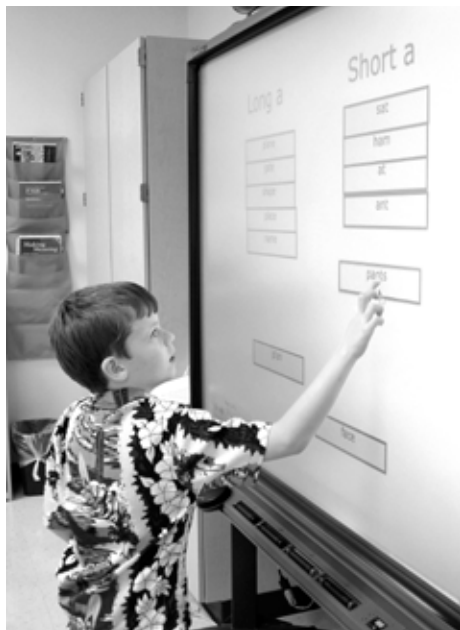
done over the past three years including passing Propositions Y and S," said Superintendent **Linda Henke**. "He has a thorough knowledge of both the community and his craft. He will be leaving big shoes to fill." The district will be conducting a search for a replacement and hopes to have someone in place by the end of October.

MRH Technology Program, Equipment Get an Upgrade

District's commitment to technology in the classroom continues to expand

When fourth grade students in Gage Dodson's class are called up to the front of the room to solve a problem, they each bring a special tool with them – their fingertips. Gone are messy chalk sticks, chalkboards, and erasers, and in their place is an “interactive whiteboard,” known by the brand name, Smart Board.

For a number of years now, every learning space in the Maplewood Richmond Heights School District has been equipped with a Smart Board, a sort of



By moving the words with a touch of his finger, second grader **Jeremy Mueser** works out a word problem on his class's Smart Board.

interactive display screen that's linked to the teachers' computers. They are one of many examples of the district's integration of technology into the teaching and learning going on every day.

Dodson says the Smart Board in his classroom is an invaluable tool. “It allows me to prepare numerous amounts of lessons and interactive activities far in advance. This saves so much valuable class time,” he said. “Additionally, I can save work on the Smart Board and refer back to it at any time, which is particularly helpful when reviewing the previous day's lesson.”

This fall, the Smart Boards in all fifth and sixth grade classrooms and several classes in the high school will be upgraded to new boards with multi-touch and multi-user capabilities, which allow for two students to interact with the board simultaneously.

Chris Hoelzer, the district's director of technology, says

the new Smart Boards are just one of many exciting new things going on in the district this school year. “MRH is pushing the boundary of what is possible by its continued commitment to infusing technology into the learning environment,” he said. “Technology has the potential to make the impossible possible; and while some districts say, ‘I wish we could,’ MRH says ‘We can and we will.’”

In other technology related news...

Hand held devices at MS

The middle school has been awarded a \$15,000 grant from the Innovative Technology Education Fund. These funds are being used to purchase two class sets of iPod touches as well as a number of digital cameras. This technology will infuse technology into the classrooms, as well as the school expeditions. Students will now have the opportunity to create multi-media presentations in the field that can then be shared with parents, community, and fellow students, extending the learning beyond the expedition.

HS students support technology

A new Technology Support Center has launched at the High School/Middle School. As part of the high school's apprenticeship program, students are being trained as technology support professionals. The help center will support everything from repair to software and application support. In addition to the high school students, the center is being staffed by full-time computer repair technician and MRH alum, **David Zahn**.

Infrastructure upgrades

The technology that happens “behind the scenes” also got a boost. Wireless access points were upgraded, providing for more reliable con-

nectivity and data transfer

speeds. In addition, through MRH's partnership with the Missouri Research and Education Network (MOREnet) the district was able to increase external Internet connection speed from 30Mbps to 100Mbps.

This increase allowed MRH the ability to reliably access streaming multimedia content via the Web and faster data transfer speeds when working with content in the district's on-line

curriculum program, D2L.

Other new technology programs and upgrades are scheduled throughout the year. Stay tuned for more details.



Using an iPod Touch, MRH Middle School students **Erin Shipp**, **Ter'Shawn Wharton** and **Jiyra Walker** make a short digital film about the school's garden.

LEARN HOW TO RAISE CHICKENS



Learn the basics of raising backyard chickens in this “how to” class presented by the MRH Chickenologists. This class is free and open to the public. Following the presentation will be a Q & A panel with local residents who are raising chickens. Learn how backyard chickens are changing the world!

CHICKENS 101

Thursday, Oct. 13

6:30-8:30 p.m.

MRH Early Childhood Center
2801 Oakland Ave, Maplewood

Learn more at
www.mrhd.org/newsletter

MRH NEWS BRIEFS

The following are just some of the recent achievements and successes of the MRH students and staff.

■ In June, the MRH High School cheerleaders returned from United Cheerleaders Association Summer Cheer Camp at Southeast Missouri State University where they placed 3rd in the Fight Song & Home Cheer categories, 5th in the Cheer category, and 3rd in the Xtreme routine category. Two students, **Aayla Green** and **Tamra Jones** were also selected into the All American Cheerleading Squad.



■ In July, MRH students and staff joined students and adults from all over the U.S. and several other countries at a sustainability conference in Tucson, AZ. **Curtis BoClair**, **Marianne Hicks**, **Kayla Nong**, **Rebekah Ratliff**, and **Janai Robinson** (presenting at left), along with MRH teachers and administrators, presented information about MRH's sustainability efforts.

SoL Education Partnership, the conference organizers, recognized MRH's commitment to sustainability by waiving MRH's registration fees. Additionally, the group will be holding their next planning meeting at MRH.

■ Over the summer, energy saving light switches were installed throughout the MRH Middle/High School building. With funds provided by an Ameren rebate, the district was able to install motion sensor switches in all classrooms, offices, and bathrooms. This green measure is expected to save on electricity costs.

■ First graders at MRH Early Childhood Center show off their apples on the first day of school. In a long-standing tradition at MRH, apples are distributed to all kids in the district on the first day of school. Central Office staff and others greet students to welcome them and wish them a great, healthy, school year!



■ In August, the district unveiled a new website. The new site offers useful features including search capability, more robust school sections, and easier to use navigation. In addition, the look and feel of the site has been updated.

Check out the new site at www.mrhdsd.org

It replaced the old site, which was nearly a decade old. Other updates and improvements include subscribable calendars, links to social media pages, and a complete staff listing with

photos. Approved by the Board of Education in August, 2010, the process to redesign the website included surveys and input from teachers, parents, students, and community members.

■ Coming up: In October, MRH Chickenologists will be presenting at the St. Louis Science Center's SciFest. On Saturday, Oct. 22, from 11:30 to 12:30, the students will be talking about their book, *Chickenology: The Art and Science of Keeping Chickens*. See you there!

District earns "Distinction in Performance" (continued from page 1)

teachers. "It is a testament to what a spirit of teamwork and selflessness can do to raise student achievement," he said.

More good news

MRH Elementary saw extraordinary improvements in math scores over the previous year.

The school ranked first in improvement in the surrounding counties, and seventh most improved in the entire state. "I am proud of the hard work of our students and teachers from last year," said Principal **Tony Arnold**.

"I know there are still areas to work on and I trust we'll see even more improvements this time next year."

MRH Middle School also saw increases in scores. Communication arts proficiency rose above 60% and math proficiency above 50% for the entire school for the first time. "Our students deserve a lot of credit for their focus and dedication to excellence throughout the testing cycle," said Principal **Robert Dillon**. "We are excited about the momentum that we have built, and we are looking forward to the possibilities that lie ahead."

At the high school, the number of students who scored advanced or proficient in Algebra II jumped 30% from the previous year, and Algebra I scores soared 17% over 2010 figures.

Room for improvement

Of course, not all scores improved, and even those that did still have room for improvement. "We're already digging into the data to determine other ways to boost success for our students," Henke said.

The Maplewood Richmond

Heights School District prides itself on helping students achieve—in the classroom, in college, and beyond. The district does this through differentiated instruction, highly skilled teachers, and a rich curriculum that stresses creative

thinking and problem solving skills. The goal is not, however, to just have top scores.

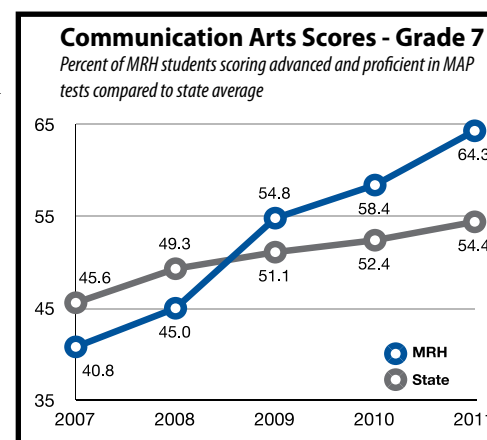
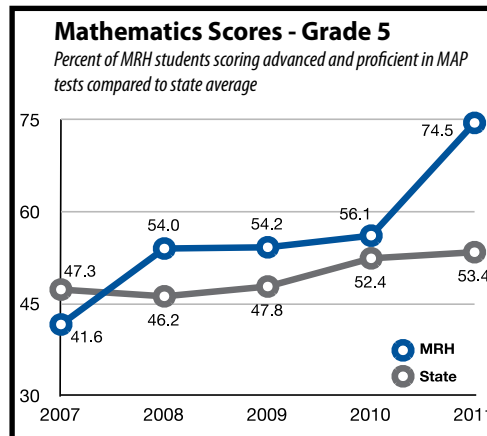
Complete test scores are available at www.mrhdsd.org

"Our goal is to give students the tools they need to succeed," said Henke.

"We are pleased that student learning is reflected in the state scores, but we feel strongly that there is so much more to learn than what's on the Missouri tests."

In March, MRH will fete the top scoring students and

their teachers at its Academic Achievement Celebration. Photos from past celebrations are available on line at www.mrhdsd.org.



Students Give Back to Community

Outreach efforts are part of a new class at MRH High School

There's a new class at MRH High School called Cornerstone Culture, and in it you'll find students reading and writing. Pretty typical for high school. However, you might also find them doing community service or working in a garden.

The communication arts class, led by **Patrice Bryan**, delves into the four cornerstones of the MRH School District: stewardship, leadership,

scholarship and citizenship. Community service projects are a great way to explore the cornerstones, and a great way to give back to the community.

In August, members of the class spent a Saturday at Edgewood Children's Center in Webster Groves. Edgewood provides residential and day treatment for youth and foster care case management. MRH joined a number of other St. Louis volunteers in a variety

of projects including cleaning up the grounds, weeding flower beds, revamping the baseball field, prepping and painting the dugouts, staining picnic tables, and spreading gravel on a parking area. The project was spearheaded



Students and staff spent a Saturday volunteering at the non-profit organization, Edgewood Children's Center.

by Mission Continues, which MRH has partnered with before.

Next up for the class is a community service project right in our district. The project, which will take place just after this newsletter goes to print, is called Serving Those Who Serve, and it's a collaboration with several community organizations.

On the National Day of Service and Remembrance, September 11, students will do just that by leading a service project effort at honoring those who have served our country.

In partnership with Veterans of Foreign Wars, and in coordination with community members and businesses, MRH students will spend their Sunday doing painting, cleaning, building, and planting at the VFW Post 3500 on Big Bend in Richmond Heights.

"VFW Post 3500 is excited and humbled to partner with Maplewood Richmond Heights High School's Serving Those Who Serve program," said VFW Post Commander **Brandan Mueller**. "The volunteerism and generosity of the MRH High School community will not only help VFW Post 3500 better serve the community but will also further the VFW's mission to serve fellow veterans."

Area businesses that pledged support of material or donations included Citizens National Bank, Shop 'n Save, and Tigerlily in Maplewood and Ambruster Donnelly Mortuary in Clayton. Maplewood Kiwanis has also pledged support for the event.

"It is an honor for VFW Post 3500 to work with our nation's future leaders in this wonderful program," Mueller added.

Careers Program Makes Lasting Impression on Students

by Lindsey Centers

Editor's Note: Lindsey Centers, currently a student at Webster University, wrote about the MRH High School's Career Connection program this past May while interning in the district's communications office.

Last year the MRH school district began a new program called Career Connections. Many students have taken advantage of the opportunity and have already started gaining experience in their future career paths. Here are some of their stories.

Scott Lunte did job shadowing at two places. He worked with 590 KFNS and Webster University's local radio station. Scott really enjoyed his time with both of his job shadows, and said his favorite part of job shadowing was learning all of the behind-the-scenes work. He said he also enjoyed learning what it takes to become a radio broadcaster, and discovering the things he needs to work on to be prepared for the job. Scott was really impressed with Jim Sanger, who works at Webster University's radio station. "When I went to the Webster Radio station, I felt like I was home," said Scott. "Jim Sanger was a real compassionate guy in what he does at the university and also he takes a lot of pride in radio. He could go on for days talking about the mistakes he made growing up, his experiences in radio, and how much he wants to help out others succeed. It was very motivating to hear some things he had

to say about radio, how I can improve, and how he found a way to get me onto a better path to my future."

Another junior, **Emilia Wilson**, did job shadowing during the school year. She worked with Sarah Carmody Photography. Emilia noted, "It was really cool to see her photos and what she does for a living." She also said



that the job shadow was beneficial, but came with a few challenges. "There was so much stuff to do in so little time, and sometimes it was hard to understand everything about photography and the technology it uses." Emilia's favorite part of the job shadow was watching photo shoots. "Every time there was a photo shoot I would get so excited. Just to see her in action was great, and to see how she interacted with people," she said. Emilia learned a lot at her job shadow and plans to use everything she experienced later on in her career. Emilia's job shadowing experience landed her a paid gig—she was hired by the Maplewood Community Betterment Foundation to take photos at a summer concert.

I also had the opportunity to take part in the program this year. I was an intern at the Early Childhood Center, and I absolutely loved it! My favorite part of the internship was working with the kids there and getting a chance to know them. It was always fun listening to their wild imaginations as they told you a story. I also enjoyed this internship because I learned a lot about the career of early childhood education, which I plan on pursuing a degree at Webster University.

Above: **Scott Lunte** announces a boys soccer game last year. Left: **Brittney Poole**, interning with the Maplewood Fire Department, helps in a training exercise.

High School's Fall Sports Schedules

Varsity Football



DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Friday	Aug 26	MICDS	7:00 pm
Friday	Sept 2	Brentwood	7:00 pm
Friday	Sept 09	Potosi	7:00 pm
Friday	Sept 16	St. Genevieve	7:00 pm
Friday	Sept 23*	Central Park Hills	7:00 pm
Saturday	Oct 1	Perryville	1:00 pm
Friday	Oct 7	Fredericktown	7:00 pm
Saturday	Oct 15	Carnahan	1:00 pm
Friday	Oct 21	Transportation/Law	7:00 pm
Thursday	Oct 27	Lift for Life	7:00 pm
Wednesday	Nov 2	MSHSAA Regional	8:00 pm
Monday	Nov 7	MSHSAA Sectional	8:00 pm
Saturday	Nov 12	MSHSAA Quarters	1:00 pm
Saturday	Nov 19	MSHSAA Semis	1:00 pm
Saturday	Nov 26	MSHSAA Show Me Bowl	TBA E.J. Dome

Junior Varsity Football

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Monday	Aug 29	MICDS	6:00 pm
Saturday	Sept 3	Brentwood	12:00 pm
Monday	Sept 12	Cardinal Ritter	4:15 pm
Monday	Sept 19	St. Genevieve	6:00 pm
Monday	Sept 26	Park Hill	6:00 pm
Monday	Oct 3	Perryville	6:00 pm
Monday	Oct 10	Fredericktown	6:00 pm

Bold denotes MRH is the home team

* = homecoming game

All games not in bold will be played at the away school's site. For more details, including maps to away games and final scores, visit the MRH website at www.mrbsd.org.



Boys Soccer

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Tuesday	Sept 6	McCluer	4:15 pm
Fri-Sat	Sept 9-10	Hannibal Tourney	TBA
Tuesday	Sept 13	Valley Park	4:00 pm
Thursday	Sept 15	Metro	4:00 pm
Friday	Sept 16	Brentwood	4:15 pm
Mon-Fri	Sept 19-24	Hillsboro Tourney	TBA
Tuesday	Sept 27	McCluer North	4:30 pm
Wednesday	Sept 28	Crossroads	4:00 pm
Thursday	Sept 29	Hillsboro	5:00 pm
Friday	Sept 30	Valley Park	4:00 pm
Tuesday	Oct 4	Brentwood	6:00 pm
Thursday	Oct 6	Pacific	5:00 pm
Friday	Oct 7	Bayless	4:15 pm
Tuesday	Oct 11	Hancock	6:00 pm
Tuesday	Oct 18	Windsor	5:00 pm
Wednesday	Oct 19	Bayless	4:15 pm
Tuesday	Oct 25	Hancock	4:00 pm
Thursday	Oct 27	U City	4:15 pm
Friday	Oct 28	Crossroads	4:00 pm
Saturday	Oct 29	MSHSAA District	TBA
Saturday	Nov 5	MSHSAA District	TBA
Saturday	Nov 19	MSHSAA Sectional	TBA
Saturday	Nov 26	MSHSAA Finals	TBA

Volleyball



DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Tues.-Fri.	Aug 30-Sep 2	Hancock Tournament	TBA
Saturday	Sept 10	Brentwood	TBA
Tuesday	Sept 13	Valley Park	5:00 pm
Wednesday	Sept 14	Normandy	5:00 pm
Friday	Sept 16	Brentwood	5:15 pm
Tuesday	Sept 20	Bayless	5:00 pm
Wednesday	Sept 21	Jennings	5:00 pm
Friday	Sept 23	Hancock	5:15 pm
Saturday	Sept 26	Valley Park	5:00 pm
Tuesday	Sept 27	Crossroads	5:00 pm
Fri-Sat	Sep 30-Oct 1	Crossroads Tourney	TBA
Monday	Oct 3	St. Elizabeths	5:15 pm
Tuesday	Oct 4	Brentwood	5:00 pm
Thursday	Oct 6	Crossroads	5:00 pm
Friday	Oct 14	Bayless	5:00 pm
Tuesday	Oct 11	Hancock	5:00 pm
Wednesday	Oct 12	Clayton	5:00 pm
Wednesday	Oct 19	Metro	5:00 pm
Monday	Oct 24	MSHSAA District	TBA
Saturday	Oct 29	MSHSAA Sectional	TBA
Friday	Nov 4	MSHSAA State	TBA



Physical education improves *(continued from page 1)*

to fight stress, sharpen intellect, and elevate one's mood, not to mention combat the nation's obesity epidemic.

It starts with curriculum

Over the summer, the district's physical education and health teachers spent countless hours overhauling the curriculum for K-12 students. The newly redesigned classes are rolling out this fall.

In addition, new equipment will be added to the mix. An indoor portable fitness/obstacle course called Railyard Fitness, has been added to three of the schools. Plus, digital heart rate/activity monitors have been ordered. These tools will help students better understand the impact of aerobic exercise on the body.

Long-term plans include the collection of student health data over the course of their time at MRH. Almost like a report card, the schools will send "fitness grams" or health reports home to parents. Not only will they be able

to see their child's progress, but they'll be able to use the information to encourage active lifestyles at home...for the students and their family.

MRH invites the community

Another addition to the MRH health program is a series of outdoor fitness stations. These five stations, located on the grounds around the track at the high school, are a great way to get to get a complete workout, whether for beginners or experienced pros.

Like the track itself, the fitness stations are open and available

See photos of the fitness stations at www.mrbsd.org/newsletter

for public use. MRH welcomes seniors, families and all community members to use the facilities for your own personal fitness, and to become fit for life!

Public Notice: Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act Notification

This notice is posted to inform users of Maplewood Richmond Heights School District facilities that the school district is continually dealing with the study of asbestos in the schools. The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986, referred to as AHERA, was enacted by Congress to determine the extent of and develop solutions for any problems schools may have with asbestos.

Our initial Inspections and Management Plan were performed by Midwest Asbestos Abatement Corporation, an EPA accredited firm. Our most recent triennial reinspection for the district was conducted by Sitex Environmental in 2005. Our facilities are regularly inspected by a certified asbestos inspector as required by AHERA.

This notice is posted in the Asbestos Management Plan that includes the following: education and training of our employees of the Buildings & Grounds Department, a specific set of plans and procedures designed to minimize the disturbance of any asbestos containing materials in our buildings, and plans for regular surveillance of the asbestos containing materials. A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan is available for your inspection in our administrative offices during regular business hours. All inquiries should be directed to Beth Rowland, Director of Buildings & Grounds.

We are intent on not only complying with, but exceeding federal, state and local requirements in this area to ensure that our children, employees, and building users have a healthy, safe environment in which to learn and work.

Food & Nutritional Public Notice

The **Maplewood Richmond Heights** School District announces its revised free and reduced price policy for school children unable to pay the full price of meals served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program.

Local education officials have adopted the following family-size income criteria for determining eligibility:

Household Size	Maximum Household Income Eligible for Free Meals			Maximum Household Income Eligible for Reduced Price Meals		
	Annually	Monthly	Weekly	Annually	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$14,157	\$1,180	\$273	\$20,147	\$1,679	\$388
2	\$19,123	\$1,594	\$368	\$27,214	\$2,268	\$524
3	\$24,089	\$2,008	\$464	\$34,281	\$2,857	\$660
4	\$29,055	\$2,422	\$559	\$41,348	\$3,446	\$796
5	\$34,021	\$2,836	\$655	\$48,415	\$4,035	\$932
6	\$38,987	\$3,249	\$750	\$55,482	\$4,624	\$1,067
7	\$43,953	\$3,663	\$846	\$62,549	\$5,213	\$1,203
8	\$48,919	\$4,077	\$941	\$69,616	\$5,802	\$1,339
Each add'l member	+\$4,966	+\$414	+\$96	+\$7,067	+\$589	+\$136

Children from families whose current income is at or below those shown are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Applications are available at the principal's office in each school. To apply, fill out a Free and Reduced Price School Meals Family Application and return it to the school. The information provided on the application is confidential and will be used only for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. A complete application is required as a condition of eligibility. A complete application includes: (1) household income from all sources or Food Stamp/Temporary Assistance case number, (2) names of all household members, and (3) the signature and social security number of adult household member signing application. School officials may verify current income at any time during the school year.

Foster children may be eligible regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside. A foster child is considered a family of one and only personal use income is counted to determine eligibility.

If a family member becomes unemployed or if family size changes, the family should contact the school to file a new application. Such changes may make the children of the family eligible for these benefits.

Under the provisions of the policy, the office of Food & Nutrition Services will review the applications and determine eligibility. If a parent is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he or she may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis or may make a request either orally or in writing to the Superintendent whose address is 7539 Manchester Road, Maplewood, MO 63143 for a hearing to appeal the decision.

Hearing procedures are outlined in the policy. A complete copy of the policy is on file in each school and in the central office where any interested party may review it.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

No Child Left Behind Public Notice

The **No Child Left Behind** (NCLB) legislation, signed into law in 2002, is one of the most complex federal laws to impact public education. NCLB mandates that all children be proficient in reading and mathematics by 2014. The state has set incremental percentage goals based on 2001-2002 Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) data and has identified what it will take to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) to get to 100 percent proficiency. To make AYP, a school must achieve specific levels of achievement on the MAP test every year, in two content areas, and in every subgroup. Subgroups include race, language proficiency and disability.

While the U.S. Department of Education and state education agencies develop and modify the procedures for meeting the mandates of the NCLB legislation, the Maplewood Richmond Heights School District will continue its focus on student achievement.

As the federal and state government and many school districts throughout Missouri (including ours) strive to determine the implications of NCLB, be assured that we will continue to do everything in our power to ensure the success of all students in the MRH School District.

Special Education Public Notice

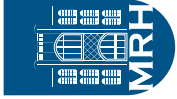
All responsible public agencies are required to locate, evaluate, and identify children with disabilities who are under the jurisdiction of the agency, regardless of the severity of the disability, including children attending private schools, highly mobile children, such as migrant and homeless children, and children who are suspected of having a disability and in need of special education even though they are advancing from grade to grade.

The Special School District of St. Louis County assures that it will provide a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) to all eligible children with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 under its jurisdiction. Disabilities include autism, deaf/blindness, emotional disorders, hearing impairment and deafness, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment/blindness and young child with a developmental delay.

The Special School District in partnership with the Component Districts assures that it will provide information and referral services necessary to assist the State in the implementation of early intervention services for infants and toddlers eligible for the Missouri First Steps program.

The Special School District in partnership with the Component Districts assures that personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained by the agency for the purposes of identification, evaluation, placement or provision of FAPE of children with disabilities may be inspected and/or reviewed by their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians may request amendment to the educational record if the parent/guardian believes the record is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy or other rights of their child. Parents have the right to file complaints with the U.S. Department of Education or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education concerning alleged failures by the district to meet the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The Special School District of St. Louis County has developed a Local Compliance Plan for the implementation of State Regulations for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This plan contains the agency's policies and procedures regarding storage, disclosure to third parties, retention and destruction of personally identifiable information and the agency's assurances that services are provided in compliance with the General Education Provision Act (GEPA). This plan may be reviewed in the Office of the Superintendent during regular school hours on days school is in session. This notice will be provided in native languages as appropriate.



MRH SCHOOL DISTRICT
7539 Manchester Road
Maplewood, MO 63143
(314) 644-4400
www.mrhstd.org

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School District Hosts Open House Nov. 6

The Maplewood Richmond Heights School District invites the public to tour each of its schools at a district wide open house on **Sunday, Nov. 6 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.** Visitors will be able to meet with school principals, members of the faculty, and tour the spaces at each of the district's buildings. You can also see construction in progress at the early childhood center, and the recently completed projects at the high school.

This event is not just for families interested in enrolling their kids in the schools, but for all members of our community since we have a vested interest in the quality of our local schools:

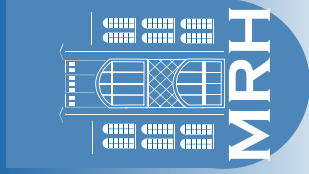
MRH Early Childhood Center, 2801 Oakland, Maplewood
MRH Elementary, 1800 Princeton Pl., Richmond Heights
MRH Middle School, 7539 Manchester, Maplewood
MRH High School, 7539 Manchester, Maplewood
MRH Student Success Center, 2555 Oakland Ave., Maplewood
MRH New Vision, 2556 Oakland Ave., Maplewood

For more details, visit www.mrhstd.org

Calendar of Events

- September 15**
Board of Education Meeting,
High School Library
- September 30**
Professional Development
Day (no school for students)
- October 14**
End of first quarter
- October 20**
Board of Education Meeting,
High School Library
- October 24 & 26**
Parent/ teacher conferences for
ECC and Middle School
- October 25 & 27**
Parent/ teacher conferences for
Elementary and High School
- October 28**
Professional Development
Day (no school for students)
- November 6**
District Open House
- November 17**
Board of Education Meeting,
High School Library
- November 23-25**
Thanksgiving break

For complete details, including
times and locations,
visit www.mrhstd.org.



MRH SCHOOL NEWS
Maplewood Richmond Heights School District
Fall 2011



**MRH EARN'S
TOP SCORE!**

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