



A Note from the Principal

We are two thirds of the way through the year. Hopefully spring will be in the air – soon. Thanks to everyone's response in supporting MSSPA through this challenging economic time. Since our request in December we have raised \$79,520 towards our \$300,000 goal. Thanks to everyone for the great effort and support. We are finalizing plans for our March 25th **Spark The Arts** benefit gala at the Premiere of our spring production – *The Sound and The Sense*. Purchase your tickets to attend a night of fundraising and fun. If you can't attend the gala but are interested in donating to the auction, contact Verla Ring at 612-916-7465 or Linda Schievelbein at 763-494-4590. Finally, please support the show which will be an interdisciplinary show.

We are beginning to plan for next year. Students are reviewing their transcripts and selecting courses for next year. Parents please look for this information

Counselor's Corner

End of Quarter

Third quarter exams will take place on March 24 and 25 – students cannot be absent from school these days or risk not be able to take their exams.

Senior Trip

Final payments for the senior trip was due February 19, 2010. Please contact Junior Tours at 1-800-631-2241 if you have not made this payment or have any questions or concerns.

to come home in the next few weeks. We also need parents to support us in assuring students' school success by continuing to review your student's grades via the parent portal. Contact Deb Wolf at 952-224-1344 to get access to the online grade reporting system if you have forgotten how to log in. We also encourage parents to contact teachers with questions and concerns. We do want to give a few tips to facilitate positive communication

- Staff members try to respond to phone and email inquiries within two working days.
- Parents should schedule contact time before and after school. Teachers are teaching during the day and can not give adequate attention to questions during their instructional day.
- Try to communicate when you are calm to facilitate effective communication of the concern and resolution. Staff members can ask to reschedule a meeting with an administrator if

Junior College Planning

Juniors – you need to take either the ACT or the SAT this spring. These tests are offered on Saturday mornings at large high schools around the nation. Each test type will have 2 more test dates before summer - please go on to their websites for more information and to get signed up. ACT will be offered on April 10 and June 12 – for more information see www.actstudent.org SAT will be offered on May 1

emotions seem to be heightened. Our goal is the success of every student and if we all work together this can be accomplished beyond our wildest expectations.

We will also have next year's school calendar approved by April 1st. I wanted to let parents know that we will again be following the Hopkins school district calendar. Consequently, based on the current Hopkins 2010-11 calendar we will be starting school prior to Labor Day on August 30, 2010.

We would also like to give one final reminder that we are currently accepting enrollment for next school year. Priority enrollment ends on March 15th. Tell your friends and your friend's friends about MSSPA.

We can't wait to see all of our families and students next year joined by a host of new parents and students!!

and June 5 – for more information see www.collegeboard.com

MN State Testing

The state of Minnesota currently requires students to take MCA-II tests once a year in grades 9-11.

We will take these tests in April of this year.

cont'd

Important Dates

March 9 Late start, classes begin at 9:57AM;
PTO Meeting 7:00PM
MSSPA Conference Room

March 10 & 11 Main Street Actor's Guild Performance at MSSPA 7:30PM

March 10 - April 6 MSSPA Spring Plant Sale

March 14-18 Earn cash for MSSPA, eat at Chili's in Eden Prairie with a voucher

March 19 No Shame!
at MSSPA 7:30PM

March 20 Prospective Student Information Session 9:00AM

March 25 End of 3rd Quarter; **Spark The Arts Benefit Gala** at the premiere of *The Sound and The Sense* at the Southern Theater 6:30PM. Get tickets through MSSPA for this event.

March 26 No School Grading Day;
Spring Show, *The Sound and the Sense*, at the Southern Theater 7:30PM. Call the Southern Theater 612-340-1725 to get tickets or purchase at the door.

March 27 School Board Meeting 9:30AM at MSSPA;
Spring Show, *The Sound and the Sense*, at the Southern Theater 7:30PM. Call the Southern Theater 612-340-1725 to get tickets or purchase at the door.

March 29 - April 2 No School Spring Break

April 5 Classes Resume

Counselor's Corner cont'd

9th Grade

Written Composition GRAD
April 13

10th Grade

Reading MCA/GRAD
April 13 and 14

11th Grade

Mathematics MCA/GRAD
April 13 and 14

To be eligible for a diploma from a Minnesota public high school, students enrolled in grade 8 in the 2005-06 school year or later must pass the Written Composition GRAD. These students must also obtain an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient on the MCA in reading and mathematics or pass the GRAD in reading and mathematics (these two tests are combined in to one but can be passed separately).

In the 2009 legislative session, the statute changed the mathematics requirement for students in the Classes of 2010-2014. Students in these five classes are not required to obtain a proficient score on the Mathematics MCA or pass the Mathematics GRAD in order to be eligible for graduation from high school – instead they must take at least two re-tests after their initial MCA/GRAD test.

Please contact the Counseling Office if you have further questions about MN State Testing: [Send Email](#)

GRAD re-testing

Students that have not passed the GRAD Reading test (first offered in 10th grade) or GRAD Math test (first offered in 11th grade) are required to retake these tests in a 40 question computerized format. These students will be pulled from class to retake these tests during testing windows set by the state. Retests can be offered during one week a month and students can retake these tests every six weeks. GRAD test results are mailed out each summer and then each month following a re-test opportunity. If you are not sure if your student has passed these tests, please contact Ms. Wolf. [Send Email](#)

Course Selection

Course selection materials for 2010-11 were handed out to all students on Friday, February 19th. Students have gone over their transcripts to determine what additional credits they need for graduation. They now need to consult with parents

and teachers to make selections for courses they would like to take next year. Completed course selection forms are due to Homeroom teachers (completely filled out and with the required teacher sign-offs) on March 3rd.

Arts teachers will confer with students about course choices at Juries and students must conference with academic teachers about academic course selections as time allows before March 3rd.

Seniors and Graduation

All Seniors were directed to complete one additional credit check on Thursday, February 18th. This check was to ensure that the student was on track to earn 56 credits in the requisite areas by the end of the school year.

Students who have not met these requirements WILL NOT be allowed to walk in graduation.

If you have any concerns that your student is not on track for graduation, for clarification please contact Ms. Wolf. [Send Email](#)



Important Dates for Seniors

Senior Trip

April 10-13

Prom

May 15, 8pm
Boom Island Park, Minneapolis

Senior Showcase

Update to date and place:
May 25-27, Eisenhower Community Center

Senior Finals

May 28 and June 1

Senior Reception

June 1, 7:30pm
Hopkins Center For The Arts
Jaycees Studio

Valleyfair Trip & Grad Party

June 2 - all day until 8:30pm

Graduation

June 3, 6:30pm
Hopkins Center For The Arts
Mainstage

MSSPA wishlist

- Copy paper, 5 boxes per month
- Cleaning wipes
- Granola bars
- 100% juice and cups for breakfast
- Jelly and all natural peanut butter
- Plastic knives
- Water bill \$43 per month
- Culligan filtered water \$92 per month
- Postage \$300 per month
- Qwest phone service -

- \$118 per month
- Copier lease - \$350 per month
- Counseling services with Teens Alone - \$125 per month
- Dictionaries, thesauruses, and vocabulary books, please contact Ms. Miller for specifics
- Market Pantry Buttermilk complete waffle mix for Honor Roll breakfasts
- Memory card for Kodak

- EasyShare C180 camera for Yearbook
- Overhead projector markers
- Piano pedals
- Ipod connector cords
- 10 Yoga mats
- 30 Yoga blocks
- Other portable aerobics exercise equipment (steps, etc.)
- Projector mounted in the flex space
- Feminine products

- Ibuprophen

Contact the office if you have questions,
952-224-1340

You can also donate online:
www.performing-arts-school.org/donate.html

All donations are tax deductible. MSSPA is a nonprofit organization, 501(c)3



Students of the Month

February 2010

Each month Main Street School of Performing Arts recognizes a group of outstanding students. Each instructional area selects one student as "Student of the Month". The students of the month are selected based on their scholarship, attitude, and commitment to the school community.

Dance:

Nick Taniguchi

The Dance student of the month for February is Nick Taniguchi. Nick has made great progress in beginning ballet. He is prompt, prepared, polite and continues to grow in his knowledge of the "art" of ballet. He exemplifies a good student by always asking questions, advocating for himself and taking risks. Thanks Nick, keep up the good work!

Language Arts:

Johnecia Gaillard

Johnecia has shown tremendous strengths in her ability to be thoughtful about literature and to express her views with strength and conviction.

Johnecia's participation and preparedness has been appreciated, and we look forward to more excellent contributions from her.

Mathematics:

Emilio Maldonado

Emilio works really hard in class, always stays on task, and asks great questions. When Emilio presents work in front of the class, he is great at explaining his work and answering everybody's questions. Thanks for being such a math all star, Emilio!!

Music:

Wolf Mountain

Wolf member Cole Benson arranged and organized Folk Night, a concert and fundraiser that raised over \$500 for the school. The Wolf members have donated all funds raised for the sale of their CD to MSSPA. Thanks Guys!

Science:

David Gale

David has a natural affinity for Biology, and has excelled at everything so far: in just 7.4 seconds, he completed a mitosis challenge, the fastest time in all three biology classes. In addition, David's Cell Research Project, an interactive mitosis animation, will be a useful study tool for many future MSSPA biology students. Well done, David!

Social Studies:

Julia Miller

Julia has such a positive attitude that it spreads throughout the whole class. Her enthusiasm for learning and understanding of the material are evident in her work, and her helpfulness and acceptance of others are an inspiration to us all. Well done Julia and thank you!

Theatre:

Emilio Maldonado

The February Theatre Student of the month is Emilio Maldonado. Emilio has grown in this year, not only in the class room but on stage as well. His performance in *Bang Bang You're Dead* was singled out in our competition and his recent work in Acting 3 has shown growth, depth and commitment. Emilio strives to understand, create and surpass expectations. Nice work dude, take off the backpack.

World Languages:

Amber Anderson

It is a pleasure to have Amber Anderson in Spanish 3 this year. She writes fascinatingly surreal stories. She illustrates imaginary creatures with amazing attention to detail. Gracias, Amber, for sharing your talent with your class!

Advanced Placement News

The time has come to order AP tests which will be administered in early May. The cost is \$22 per test except for students on free and reduced lunch. All fees must be paid by March 12th. For more information on testing dates and to download a test registration form, please visit the website:

[Visit the site by clicking here](#)

Checks payable to MSSPA. Return registration forms and payment to Ms. Miller before March 12th.

Enrollment for Advanced Placement classes and tests at MSSPA have increased greatly over previous years! Here are some numbers:

Year	Students	Tests
2007-08	35	44
2008-09	28	36
2009-10	51	82

The number of students taking Advanced Placement tests is 82% greater than last year and the total number of tests is more than doubled. Also, three times as many 10th graders are participating in Advanced Placement since last year!

CONGRATULATIONS STUDENTS!

What do I do when the School Nurse is not available?

There has been some confusion about health office policies when the school nurse is not in the building.

The health office is open 8:45am - 4:30pm on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and 1:00 - 4:30pm on Tuesday and Thursday. The hours have been cut due to budgetary issues.

The main concern is students call their parents to come and get them because they are sick and staff does not know the student has left the building because the parent has

not signed the student out in the office. This is a student safety issue and mainly happens when the school nurse is not in the building and the main office is temporarily closed.

The following guidelines should help clarify any confusion students and parents may have when the health office is closed.

- When the health office is closed and the student feels they have an issue that can't wait for the health office to open, they need to go to the main office.

- If the staff in the main office feels the student should go home, they will call a parent to arrange pickup.

- If a parent hears from their student to pick them up because they are sick, the parent needs to call the main office at 952-224-1340 to confirm that the student has checked in with the main office staff and has been excused to go home.

- If a student drives themselves to and from school, the main office staff will confirm that a student

is well enough to drive home. If not, a parent will need to pick the student up.

- When a parent comes to pick up a student, they need to come in to the main office and sign the student out.

- If the main office is temporarily closed there will be a sign posted on the door where to find a staff person to assist you.



Upcoming ways to help support the school... Spread the word...

MSSPA SPRING PLANT SALE

March 10 - April 6

Plant pick-up May 13th
2:30-5:30pm

Order forms will be given to students on 3/10 and available on the website soon after. Watch for emails.

All proceeds benefit the school.

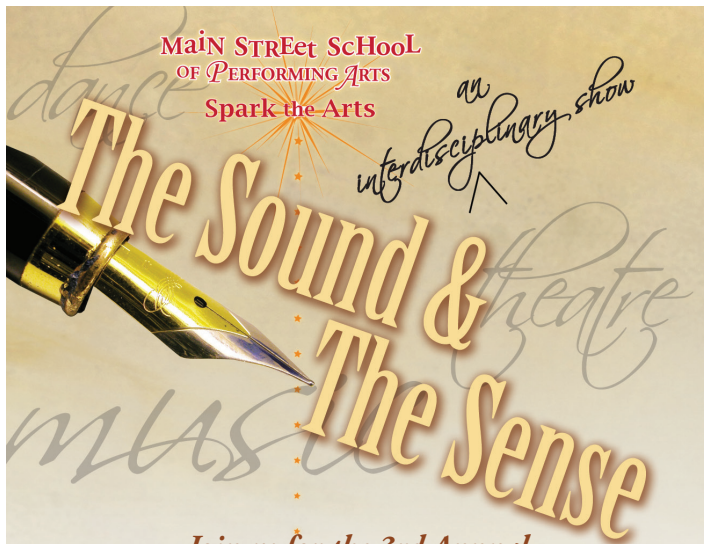


Eat at Chili's Restaurant & Earn Money for MSSPA! March 14 - 18

Looking for an easy way to contribute to Main Street? MSSPA is participating in Chili's Pepper Profit Partner Program! **With a voucher, you can visit the Eden Prairie Chili's Restaurant March 14-18, 2010 and MSSPA will earn 10% of total purchases (excluding taxes).**

National Honor Society will be distributing vouchers to interested students and families the week of March 8-12. Vouchers will also be available in the office. You **MUST** have a voucher in order to participate in this program, so please get your voucher and have a night out while supporting MSSPA!





Join us for the 3rd Annual Spark the Arts Benefit Gala

March 25th, 2010, 6:30–10:00 p.m.

Premiere of “The Sound & The Sense”
Works of poetry interpreted through the artistic styles of music, theatre and dance

Live/Silent Auctions & Dessert Buffet

Featured Auction Items:

- Pair of U2 tickets for TCF Stadium
- Private Bowling Party for 40 at Park Tavern in St. Louis Park
- “Truffle of the Month” Club for one year from Beyond Chocolates

The Southern Theater
1420 Washington Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN

Parking: Seven Corners Ramp, adjacent to the Holiday Inn

Attire: Cocktail Chic / **Ticket Price:** \$50.00
Invitations will be mailed soon.

RSVP BY MARCH 15TH / For more information: 763-493-3331
Seating is limited. We encourage you to reserve your space early.

This is a wonderful way to support the school, all proceeds from the event will benefit the school. Invite friends, family, business associates, others interested in “sparking” the arts.

Wish to donate an auction item? Contact Verla Ring:
vjring@aol.com

PTO News

Thanks to your generosity in contributing to PTO, we have approved grant requests from the various departments:

Academics: 4 microscopes, Barnes & Noble gift cards (for Talented and Gifted program), batteries (for calculators), art supplies for Visual Arts Club

Theatre: Video Camera and Lumber.

Dance: Guest Artist, Speakers, Skeleton, Weights, Videos.

Music: Tuning the Marimba, Guest Artist – Justin Roth



Spring Plant Sale

Sale starts March 10 and runs through April 6. Look for an email on March 10 with order form. Plant pick up date will be Thursday May 13.

NO SHAME! Buttons

To reward and encourage students for NO SHAME performances we are giving unique MSSPA NO SHAME buttons to all participants.

These buttons can not be purchased and can only be earned by NO SHAME participants. They look great. Thanks to Linda Chrissyomalis for designing them.

Senior Party - To help celebrate our Senior class, we have booked dinner and a show at Stevie Ray Comedy Cabaret at the Bloomington Sheraton. This event will take place on Wednesday, June 2 after Valleyfair. Senior parents, please mark your calendar, more details will be forthcoming as we get closer to the date.

Next PTO Meeting will be Tuesday, March 9 at 7:00PM at school in the conference room. Everyone welcome!

**Download
March Lunch
Menu**

[Click here to get the menu](#)

**GET SCHOOL
SPIRIT WEAR**

[Click here to get your gear](#)

Main Street School of Performing Arts
1320 Mainstreet
Hopkins, MN 55343
952-224-1340

www.performing-arts-school.org



music

theatre

dance

life!