Senior Play 2015 – a Great Success!!!

Almost 60 members of the Senior Class participated in this year’s production of *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. Hundreds of friends, family, alumni and community members attended shows March 13-15 in the MUHS auditorium. Adam Joselson did a tremendous job as Willy Wonka, with Burke Farrell as the sweet Charlie and Jake Lawson as his best friend Grandpa Joe. Audiences enjoyed the industrious dancing Oompa Loompas and the world’s biggest squirrels. Other “ticket winners” included Alexis Ouellette, Isabel Velez, Evan Ryan and Joe Hounchell. Their lackluster, but equally funny, parents were played by Jesse Wulfman, Michael Gyukeri, Julia Rosenberg and Bailey Ryan. Simon Brouck and the All-Star Oompa Loompa Band rounded out the action, helped along by the wonderful accompanist, Annette Franklin. The backstage crew did a great job, headed up by Paige Stocker. Calvin DesForges and Steve Small put together scrumdilliumptious set, as well! Once again, we are so grateful for the support of our wonderful parent volunteers who do so much to make things happen on stage! The class raised over $14,000 to put toward Project Graduation and other senior class events.
The Rensselaer Medal Program

The Rensselaer Medal Program recognizes outstanding juniors at high schools around the country. Recipients of this award must meet the following criteria.

- Be in the top 10% of the junior class;
- Excel in advanced math and science courses;
- Exhibit significant involvement in extracurricular activities; and
- Demonstrate potential for success.

Additionally, students who receive this award and enroll at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute will receive a scholarship worth $15,000 a year for four years. See your school counselor for more details.

The Clarkson Leadership Program

Each year, The Clarkson Leadership Program offers two scholarships to Middlebury Union High School juniors; the Clarkson Leadership Award, worth $15,000 a year and the Clarkson Achievement Award, worth $12,000 a year. Recipients must meet the following criteria:

- Be in the top 15% of the junior class;
- Demonstrate outstanding leadership qualities;
- Have an academic interest in Engineering, Business, Science or Liberal Arts;
- Be recognized by students and faculty as having been a positive contributor to our school and community.

In order to receive these scholarships, recipients must enroll as full-time students at Clarkson University and remain in good academic standing. Interested students should see their school counselor for more details.

Virtual High School Courses

Over the past several years, MUHS has had many students enroll in an on-line class with Virtual High School (VHS). These on-line classes offer enrichment opportunities for our students to explore subjects ranging from Screenwriting to Biotechnology. Students interested in taking a VHS class should stop in the Guidance Office to talk with their counselor and pick up a registration packet. Completed registration forms need to be returned to the Guidance Office. A list of classes is available at www.goVHS.org.

Green Mountain Boys’ State

Each summer, young men from around Vermont will attend the Green Mountain Boys’ State Conference. This program offers training in the practical processes of self-government and good citizenship as practiced in a democratic society. This year, the conference will be held at Lyndon State College from June 21th through June 26th. Eligible candidates must be juniors at their respective high school. Applications are available at the Guidance Office and must be returned by April 10th. Contact the Guidance Office for more information at 382-1195.
Junior Post-Secondary Planning

As spring approaches, counselors in the Guidance Department want to encourage juniors to begin actively researching and visiting colleges. Naviance, our college and planning program, is a very useful tool in helping students narrow down a list of colleges. At this point, all juniors have been introduced to the college planning section of Naviance through individual meetings with their school counselors. In addition to Naviance, school counselors shared information regarding the registration process for the SAT and/or ACT and reviewed graduation requirements.

We also want to extend an invitation to students and parents to set up an appointment with their school counselors to discuss post-secondary plans. Whether further plans include attending a traditional four-year college or technical training, we have a variety of resources to help in the college selection process. Please contact the Guidance Office for an appointment or more information.

VSAC College Pathways

High school juniors, sophomores and parents: Get free college planning guidance at College Pathways (and a chance to win a free iPad or a $500 college savings account!). Workshops include SAT/ACT prep & strategies, college costs & financial aid, writing application essays, finding colleges that fit & more. Reserve your spot at www.vsac.org/CollegePathways or call 888-943-7301 for information. Walk-ins welcome! Workshop dates and locations are as follows:

- **Monday, March 30** (4:15-8:30 at Lyndon State College with NEK College Fair
- **Saturday, April 11** at Castleton State College (9:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m.)

Consider Canada College Fair

Are you interested in attending college in Canada? South Burlington High School is hosting the Northern New England Consider Canada University Tour on Tuesday, April 14th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. There will be a panel presentation, followed by an opportunity to meet with college representatives.

NCAA Eligibility

On April 7, 2015 at 7 p.m., Rice Memorial High School will be hosting an NCAA eligibility information night. Topics include the transition from high school to intercollegiate athletics, the recruiting process, NCAA requirements and scholarship options.

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Community College of Vermont

Graduating Seniors: Whether high school was a breeze or a struggle, there is a place for you at CCV. CCV is an open-admissions college with an easy application process. Start by filling out an application form at www.ccv.edu/apply. You can earn a degree at CCV or use your CCV classes to transfer to another school, potentially saving thousands of dollars.

Current Sophomores & Juniors: Take a college course (or two!) tuition-free: Classes are offered in Middlebury, on-line, and at 11 other CCV centers across Vermont. Start by meeting with your MUHS school counselor. Students then claim their free dual enrollment vouchers by going to http://ccv.edu/apply/high-school/.

Early College (an alternative to senior year studies of high school): Students enroll full-time at CCV, completing their senior year of high school and their freshman year of college simultaneously-tuition-free! For application information, go to http://ccv.edu/apply/high-school/.

Questions? Contact CCV Academic Advisor Anya Schwartz at CCV Middlebury at 388-3032, anya.schwartz@ccv.edu.

Jazz Festival

Congratulations to the MUHS Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Anne Severy, for being named the “Exemplar Jazz Ensemble” of the year for the Vermont Association of Jazz Educators at the Annual Jazz Fest in Burlington. MUHS was the top jazz ensemble out of 20 that competed for this honor. The ensemble will have a special designation and recognition at the Burlington Discover Jazz Festival in June.
Are They Mad-Scientists or Just Mad About Science?

A Sampling of Science Classroom Updates:

In Earth and Physical Science classes, students are making waves of all sorts and hoping for some rays to warm things up. Mr. Hurlburt’s class was studying and building projects on the electro-magnetic spectrum. Mr. Johnstone’s class made videos on Chromebooks that demonstrate wave properties with PhET simulations. Mr. Scaramucci’s class was in the greenhouse preparing soil, with testing and modification, just in case the weather warms up enough to plant some test seeds for local farmers.

Additionally, in Chemistry II, Ms. Atkin’s class just finished a unit on gas laws and is now studying types of bonding and molecular geometry. Students have been playing with models to visualize molecules from a 3D perspective. Mr. Engvall’s Environmental Science class grilled up some venison as students considered the alternatives to commercial meat production. Mr. Harrington’s Physics with Calculus class held its balloon races as students finished up their studies of Newton’s Laws and Forces. In Academy Science, students launched stomp rockets and studied the parabolic curves of their paths with Mr. Hurlburt. Ms. Olson’s Biology class is studying protists under microscopes and seeing how they compare to the larger multi-celled beings we see around us.

Having some fun in the classes, and wearing our safety glasses!

Pictures of the madness!

Mr. Johnstone’s students working on their videos
Balloon racers take off in Physics with Calculus.

A student explains the Doppler Effect to the class.
Students in the Alternative Education program have been busy getting the MUHS greenhouse ready for the spring growing season. This past winter was one of the coldest in recent years and made for some difficult growing conditions. Students had been harvesting lettuce, spinach, and kale through Christmas with great success. We use no heat except the sun to heat the greenhouse. Even on a day that is in single digits, if the sun is shining, the greenhouse can get up around 60 to 70 degrees F. After the holidays and into January, the temperatures stayed very cold and we had little sun. This trend continued through February. We were able to keep most of the greens alive in somewhat of a hibernated state. In a normal year, greens would have started to grow again by the middle of February and we would be harvesting by the middle of March. This year, we ended up pulling all the greens and reseeding the greenhouse on March 11th. The temperatures continue to stay below normal, but our hope is to harvest for the school cafeteria by the middle or end of April.

We have also undertaken a large service-learning project that will hopefully be a benefit for local vegetable growers in Vermont. We have a large seed trial going on in the greenhouse. Students have divided their beds into sections and have seeded many different varieties of spinach, lettuce, and kale. The spinach trial alone has over seven varieties being trialed. Students will be keeping quantitative and qualitative data on timing of germination, soil temperatures, air temperatures, timing to harvest, disease and pest resistance, and taste. All this information will be compiled and available to growers that are interested. Our plan is to have an open house some time in late spring for growers to come and see the trials, look at the data, and taste the different varieties.

Unity Farm LLC, in Charlotte VT, has also partnered with us, and has a trial going in the greenhouse which is being done by our student and expert grower, Dakoda Miller. Dakoda has seven different greens growing including Italian dandelion greens, sorrel, and salanova. He will be collecting data, and reporting back to Unity Farm in the spring. Our hope is to collaborate with more growers in the future. The MUHS greenhouse can run trials for growers, and if it does not work, we are not losing money like the farm would be. Having the school act as a research facility of sorts is beneficial for the grower as well as the students. It makes the learning real, relevant, and rigorous for the students, while providing a service for the community. For more information on the greenhouse and the trials it is running, please contact Steve Colangeli at scolangeli@addisoncentralsu.org.
The MUHS National Honor Society raised over $120 in the course of two weeks, selling shamrocks to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Students, faculty, and staff wrote their names on the shamrocks, which are currently displayed in the cafeteria. Thank you to all who participated! Let's fight Muscular Dystrophy!

Success Saturday

Save the Dates – Success Saturday

Success Saturday is back! The Learning Lab will open for tutoring from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the following Saturdays:

- May 16
- May 30

These dates were selected to correspond with the dates nearest to interim grade reports and the end of each quarter. Students must sign up in advance in the Learning Lab. Snacks are provided. Success Saturday is a great way to stay caught up or to get caught up, to study for a text, or to work on a paper.

The Learning Lab provides tutoring in a positive and supportive environment. Tutoring is available to all MUHS students for all subjects and classes. Tutoring is provided by two licensed teachers, peer tutors, Middlebury College students, and community volunteers.

The Learning Lab is open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. and is located in room H103. Please call Ben Krahn or Tammi Beatti at 382-1165 if you have any questions.
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