Seniors Earn Slot in Honor’s Concert Band

Congratulations to seniors Sophie Saunders - Flute and Haven Tate - Bass Trombone, for being two of only four students selected from the State of Vermont to perform with the National Association for Music Educators (NAfME) Honor’s Concert Band in Nashville, TN in late October. These Middlebury Union High School students rehearsed for three days with other top students from around the United States, culminating in a performance on stage at the Grand Ole Opry. Students from around the United States are selected based on their scores from the previous year for their All State Music Festival and an online submitted audition. NAfME also held its annual conference during that time with hundreds of workshops for music educators. Sophie and Haven are students of Anne Severy, Band Director at Middlebury Union High School.
On Wednesday, October 14, 2015, Middlebury Union High School students were engaged in grade-level activities focused on planning for their time in high school as well as after graduation. Throughout the morning students, faculty and community members connected in various settings in an effort to continue the school’s work toward making education relevant to each individual student. Everyone involved helped to make the day a success!

The 9th graders spent time thinking about their core and career values, setting goals for school, life after high school and life outside of school. They had the opportunity to hear Jared Campbell present in the auditorium. Jared is an award winning singer/songwriter from upstate New York and has toured the country playing with national acts such as Jason Mraz and The Zac Brown Band. His message focused on making the right choices, overcoming obstacles, respect and having a positive approach to life.

The 10th graders had the opportunity to visit two programs of interest at the Hannaford Career Center. After their time in the Career Center, 10th grade students completed a career-interest inventory where they were able to identify how their interests and strengths relate to various careers. Through this process, students were given time to research careers they may be interested in and learn what is required both in high school and post-secondary education to pursue specific careers.
The 11th graders, as well as a small group of 10th grade students, spent the morning taking the PSAT. Taking the PSAT in the fall of junior year offers students a chance to practice for the SAT, which they will be encouraged to register for in the spring. The SAT is one of the standardized tests that many colleges require as part of the admissions process. Students will receive their PSAT scores in December and have the opportunity to use their results to prepare for the SAT this spring.

Finally, for the first half of the morning, the 12th graders class chose between a local business panel and a college admissions panel based on their post-secondary plans. When the panel discussion ended, seniors moved on to writing workshops to focus on creating/revising their resume and cover letter or starting/revising their personal essay for college applications. Students will continue working on their Personalized Learning Plans through Advisory this year. We will be reflecting on the surveys that have been completed and connecting them to each student’s 4 year plan as the school year progresses.
MUHS STUDENTS PAY IT FORWARD

On the week of October 19, 2015, the Student Coalition of Human Rights (SCOHR) with the help of Peer Leaders, facilitated several activities to reduce bullying and improve school climate. They encouraged students to “Pay it Forward” by having a pledge drive. SCOHR asked students and staff to commit to “Paying it Forward” with daily nice-acts towards others. Over a third of the student body participated in improving the school climate through this pledge. On Thursday morning, students arrived at school to find positive messages located on all of the lockers. During lunch, 274+ students participated in a Mix-it-UP lunch. Students played People Bingo, which encouraged them to get to know other students with whom they were not familiar. Everyone who participated enjoyed gifts and ice cream. Positive feedback about the week’s events was echoed by both students and staff. SCOHR hopes that by encouraging small acts of kindness, those acts will snowball into improved school climate and reduced bullying.
Civic Engaged Learning

During the first quarter of the 2015-2016 school year, students in MUHS’s Agricultural Theory course collaborated with community partners to provide a service, on-site and through the classroom, to address an environmental need. The work explored something new, not a replication of something currently being done in the community. Students’ efforts were facilitated through Elmer Farm, Addison County Solid Waste, and Canopy Timber. Students researched and worked to develop a worm composting system, raised mercury collection awareness, educated the public about illegal trash burning and dumping, proposed a viable food security system for Addison County, redesigned a garbage truck for organic waste collection, and established and tested a cost (financial and physical) analysis for firewood processing. Students spent time during the beginning of Quarter 1 working to understand the needs of their community partners and to establish feasible solutions. This experience ended eight weeks later with groups constructing possible models as solutions to the identified need, and a “test” for their creation as they sought feedback for their idea from their community partners.

Experiential learning and community engagement provide students with applied learning opportunities through their courses. Experiential learning engages students and draws them into a discipline, helping them to see the real-world application of a course’s content. Students may also be better prepared to engage in life after high school having had an experience in a work environment of interest to them. The objective for this project was for service to be designed around a need in the community, as well as draw on the skills of students. A mutually beneficial project and reciprocal relationship between the students and the community partners are the most important aspects of this type of experiential earning.

Thanks to Jennifer and Spencer Blackwell and Jacob Lepkoff at Elmer Farm, Don Maglienti at Addison County Solid Waste, and John Anderson and Alan Rawls at Canopy Timber for partnering with MUHS’s Agricultural Theory class. Thanks as well, to Jake Burnham STEM Academy- Design; Engineering & Architecture instructor at Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center for his expertise in SketchUp and 3D printing.
In Chemistry, we have finished studying how to write chemical formulas and name chemical compounds. Throughout the unit, we emphasized that each element has a different outer electron arrangement. It is the outer electrons that drive chemical reactivity. Because each element has outer electrons in a slightly different location each gives off a slightly different spectral-line pattern. In this photo, students are looking at different light sources with diffraction glasses. Haven Tate found that his iPhone flashlight made a really cool pattern. Thank you Brooke Rubright for the great photo!

Mr. Johnstone's Earth and Physical Science class has been learning about the force of gravity and Newton's Laws of Motion with model rockets. Using published information from the rocket engine company, including thrust force and burn time, we calculated estimated altitudes of 400-800 meters. These are likely overestimates, but the rockets sure did soar!
In September, AP Environmental students took a day trip out on UVM’s research vessel, the *Melosira*, to conduct research on populations of *D. Polymorpha* (Zebra Mussels). In addition, students got treated to a guest lecture by the captain on the unique aquatic environment of Lake Champlain.

Currently, students are working on the research and design of solar stills. This project aligns with our unit on the global water resources. The class has been split into groups and challenged to engineer a portable solar still that is capable of distilling two liters of water in a 24-hour period.

Mr. Hurlburt’s Science Academy students just completed their first personal development projects. Students were given the task of choosing, planning, demonstrating, and reporting back, the differences between physical and chemical changes. Individual plans ranged from the chemistry of candy to ways to show sublimation bubbles and homemade elephant toothpaste. We are now investigating the real life applications for the Electromagnetic Spectrum. More PDP projects are on the way!
Jay Harrington, an MUHS Science and Math teacher, applied for and received a grant from ACEEF to support the ongoing engineering design competition work of the school’s students. The financial support has purchased equipment for this year’s competition and for future competitions. The system provides a great foundation from which to creatively construct machines that can address multiple tasks and are expected to work well for many years; as the LEGO systems they have used have done for 11+ years. This new system includes basic building materials (metal frame components and fasteners) as well as gears, motors, and remote control systems.

Above, a student watches his robot as it prepares to score 150 points. Students in Technical Design and Build are building the robot for a competition at UVM on November 21st where there will be about 30 teams from around the State. The robot was built using a system purchased with the financial support of ACEEF.
Arianna Bailey and Natasha Causton were awarded an ACEEF grant to take Spanish students of all levels on an "immersion" trip to NYC next semester. Ms. Bailey takes AP Spanish students on an overnight trip to NYC each year, and she was hoping to extend a similar opportunity to all Spanish students. The trip will include viewing a play (most likely "La gringa") at the prestigious Repertorio Espanol, lunch at a famous Cuban restaurant (Guantanamera), and either a visit to the MoMA or the MET to see paintings by Hispanic artists, or participation in a Salsa dance class. The grant will help cover the theater tickets and/or a portion of the transportation costs.

**Save the Dates !!**

**November 12th @7pm- Band**, Jazz Ensemble, and Choir Concert

**November 20-22** - MUHS Presents - "Into The Woods"
**Dual Enrollment Opportunities**

The Vermont Dual Enrollment Program allows high school juniors and seniors to earn college credit while enrolled in high school. Students participating in the program may take up to two tuition free courses during their junior and/or senior years of high school. Please see your school counselor for more information and to register for a second semester college course!

**9th Grade Meetings**

School counselors will be meeting individually with 9th grade students beginning the week of November 9th. Counselors will be checking in around the transition to high school, first quarter grades and begin to create a four-year academic plan with each student. In addition, the supports available at MUHS will be reviewed, as well as the variety of opportunities, to get involved in extracurricular activities. Please feel free to contact your student’s school counselor with any questions.

**11th and 12th Grade Mentoring Program**

Middlebury College Access Mentoring (MiddCAM) is a program where Middlebury College students give additional support to MUHS juniors and seniors as they navigate the college admissions process. We are accepting applications from all interested juniors to participate in the program beginning 2nd semester! Middlebury College mentors will meet with juniors to discuss their interests and plans for after high school. Initially, the focus will be on researching colleges, and registering for the SAT and/or ACT. Our goal is to have students and mentors continue to work together through the fall of the senior year. Mentors can then assist students in finalizing their college lists, completing the application process and help to keep an eye on deadlines. Please feel free to contact the Guidance Department for more information or to pick up an application.
NCAA Eligibility Center

Student athletes planning on participating in an intercollegiate sport in college at the Division 1 or 2 level, have very specific academic guidelines to meet to be eligible to compete in college. Information regarding guidelines and approved courses at Middlebury Union High School are available at the eligibility centers Web-site which can be accessed through our guidance Web-page.

ASVAB

The Armed Services Aptitude Battery, (ASVAB) Career Exploration Program will be administered at MUHS on Thursday, December 10th in the Guidance Conference Room. This program is valuable for 10th through 12th grade students as it provides information on an individual’s aptitudes or abilities for career planning and particularly for those interested in the military. Students wishing to take the ASVAB need to register in the Guidance Office by December 1st.

College Admission Representative Visits

There are several college representatives visiting the Guidance Office each week. Please check the bulletin board outside of the Guidance Office, the calendar on the Guidance Web-page or the morning announcements to see which schools are visiting each week. This is an excellent opportunity to get first-hand information from colleges of interest. Please contact the Guidance Office with any questions.

VSAC Unified Scholarship Book

The VSAC Unified Scholarship Book has arrived in the Guidance Office! This is an opportunity for seniors to apply for several scholarships with only one application. The Early-bird application deadline is February 5, 2016 and the regular deadline is March 4, 2016. Please stop by the Guidance Office to pick up a scholarship booklet.
Winter Parent/Athlete Meeting

Important Winter Athlete Information

- **Winter Parent/Athlete Meeting will be on Wednesday, November 11th at 7:00pm in the MUHS Auditorium** - This is a required meeting for the parents of athletes/and athletes who are participating in athletics this winter. This meeting will provide an opportunity for parents and players to meet with the coaches and to hear their expectations and philosophies for the season. If you have questions about this meeting, or for some reason you are unable to attend, please contact Sean Farrell in the Activities office at 382-1192. We look forward to seeing you here on Wednesday, November 11th to start off a much anticipated winter season.

- **Required Forms – Instructions for creating a Sportsware account (if you haven’t already)**

  The MUHS Athletic Department is now using a Web-based sports registration program called Sportsware. Families need to create a Sportsware account for each MUHS student athlete in their household. For winter sports participants, this process must be **completed by Friday, November 13th**. As a reminder, all student athletes are required to have a well-child exam or physical on file in the MUHS school Nurse’s Office for medical clearance to participate in sports. If your student athlete has not had a well-child exam or physical since November 1, 2013, he/she will need one to participate in athletics during the 2015-2016 school year. Follow the instructions provided to create a Sportsware account for each of your student athletes. The software will allow you to use the same email address for multiple siblings, but you must choose a different password for each student athlete. If your student has been an athlete for MUHS previously, some information may already be entered. Please update any information. The opening page (Dashboard) will tell you what you have left to complete. A **screencast of the Sportsware registration process is available for you to view on the MUHS Athletic Training Web-site bit.ly/MUHSathletictraining**.

  - To set up your student athlete’s Sportsware account visit [www.swol123.net](http://www.swol123.net).
  - Click **JOIN SPORTSWARE** on the far right of the e-mail/password line.
  - The School ID is **Tigers**. Enter the student’s first name, last name, the parent/guardian’s e-mail address, and leave the group blank.
  - You will be sent a link to proceed with the process once you have been accepted into Sportsware (within 48 hrs.).
  - Log back into Sportsware
  - Click on the **MY INFO** section at the top right of your Dashboard. Fill out each of the first 5 tabs: general, address, emergency, insurance, and medical (red * are required fields). Be sure to click **SAVE**
  - Click on the **MED HISTORY** section. Complete the health history questionnaire. Be sure to click **SAVE**.
  - Click on the **FORMS** section. You must read and sign both the **Permission Form** and Participation **Contract**. Select the form to highlight it and then click **OPEN**.

Both the student athlete and the parent/legal guardian must read and sign the Permission and Contract forms **electronically**. Click **SAVE and SUBMIT**.

If you are unable to complete the forms online, the forms are available on the MUHS Athletic Training Web-page [bit.ly/MUHSathletictraining](http://bit.ly/MUHSathletictraining) and by hard copy from the Student Activities Office.

A copy of a physical signed by the student’s primary care provider will still need to be completed and turned in as a hard copy. A physical must be on file dated after November 1, 2013. A hard copy of the well-child exam form can be found on your Dashboard under **Notices and Handbooks**. All first year student athletes must turn in a copy of a current physical to the MUHS Health office. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Johnstone at sjohnstone@acsu.org for assistance.

*Practices begin Monday, November 16th. All forms must be submitted to participate*
Dear Senior Parents,

As in previous years, we are offering parents of graduating seniors the opportunity to purchase ads celebrating their son or daughter’s graduation. As a reminder, the yearbook is still all in color, and the price is still $50 for 1/6th of a page. These ads ideally should be square as they will then be fitted to 3 ½” x 3 ½” square in the yearbook. Squares are due by December 4th.

Past ads have included pictures of your respective senior as a young child, participating in a sport(s), includes family or friends, or all of these ideas incorporated together. Please paste your pictures and text on a backing that fits the given parameters as shown below. Digital images are accepted in a .JPG file and can be e-mailed or sent in on a disc. Please be careful of writing on the edges as sometimes they can get cut off by mistake.

If you would like your square returned to you, please put your address on the back of the square. Please make checks payable to “MUHS Yearbook” and send it, along with the ad, to the above address. We appreciate your support of the Quatrain and the graduating class of 2016. Please contact Mr. Ottinger at 382-1039 or by e-mail (mottinger@acsu.org) if you have any questions.

We are also asking for baby photos of all seniors. Please send them in (with you son/daughter’s name and address on back) and we will scan them and send them back. These are also due on December 4th.

Sincerely,

Yearbook Staff

All Parent Ads should be **square**. We will scan any hard copy or fit in your .jpg.

Sample square
Success Saturday is back! The Learning Lab will be open for tutoring from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the following Saturdays: **November 21, January 9, March 26, and May 21.** 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 test, 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 H-103. Please call Abigale Stannard-Mackey or Tammi Beattie at 382–1165 if you have any questions.
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Catch us on the Web: http://muhs-school.org/