



MATADOR

The Newsletter of the Murchison Middle School PTA
www.murchisonpta.org

Principal's Corner

Dear Matador Family,

In our discussions with the district about budgets and funding, it becomes clearer and clearer that Murchison would have great difficulty accomplishing what it does without the tremendous support of our parents and PTA. You have been quite generous in providing for technology, supplies, athletic equipment, professional development, and many other items.

One of the most recent purchases we made is our new Murchison Middle School marquee. This new marquee was funded by campus budget and a donation from PTA. We are now able to provide you information about multiple events and brag about the great things happening at Murchison. It is just one more way for us to "improve our connectedness" - our thematic goal for the year. Thank you PTA for your donation to this project.

Congratulations to our Green Team and Bret Korba. Mr. Korba wrote a grant proposal to increase the usability of our greenhouse area. With this grant from

ERM (Environmental Resources Management) we will be able to plant additional trees, expand the gardening area, provide for new fencing and build more raised beds. This area will also be used for instructional purposes as we address global issues and science. Thanks to ERM and Mr. Korba Murchison will strengthen its role as a shining example in AISD!

During this holiday season I send my love to all of the Murchison family. This is a true learning community that embraces the best for our students. I often sit back and reflect on the outstanding teaching, caring staff, supportive parents and wonderful students that make up our family. May the holidays bring joy and happiness. May the new year bring prosperity, success and much love to you all!

Go Matadors!

Kimiko Cartwright,
Principal

PTA MESSAGE ~ JOIN IN!

What a busy Fall we have had here at Murchison. While writing this article, I thought about doing a "recap" of all that we have accomplished - as a PTA and school - thus far and to let you know what is in store for the Winter. But, as I walked into the school today and saw that preparations were underway for our Fall Fest, I started thinking about the untold hours that our volunteers spend on behalf of our school and all of our children.

Parents stop me often and thank me for all that I do for our school. And, I have to say, I really don't feel like I deserve that thanks alone. Therefore, I accept that appreciation on behalf of all of you - the women who chaired our Fall Fest. The moms and dads who set up and work the booths, serve as security, brought donations of baked goods/drinks, attended the City's food services training - on a Saturday - so that we can serve the food at our carnival



MURCHISON MIDDLE SCHOOL • 3700 NORTH HILLS DRIVE • AUSTIN, TEXAS • 512-414-3254 • Kimiko Cartwright - PRINCIPAL

MURCHISON MS PTA OFFICERS 2009-2010

Cathylynn Brown - PRESIDENT • Alicia Doak - President-Elect • Toni McIntosh - FIRST VICE PRESIDENT •
 Ann Howard - SECOND VICE PRESIDENT Mo Gindler - SECRETARY • Cathy Painter - TREASURER • Ashley Beebee - ASSISTANT TREASURER
 Janet Hendren - HISTORIAN • Ellen Stewart - PARLIAMENTARIAN

that was so generously donated by our business partners. I accept that thanks for the Dancing Queens and all of the parents who came to our gym on a Friday night to chaperone, got messy serving popcorn/candy/drinks, took photos and watched our children enjoy the first dance of the year. I accept that thanks on behalf of our Reflections chair, who has coordinated, collected and reviewed, with the help of many volunteers, hundreds of entries. I accept thanks on behalf of our energetic grounds "super-woman"; the women who coordinate and prepare the certificates for Student of the Month; those who prepare and deliver treats/goodies and coffee and make our events "hospitable"; the parents who coordinate and feed our wonderful staff at appreciation lunches and breakfasts; those who solicit partners in the community; the volunteers who have expanded and advertised our wonderful jewel of an IB program. I accept thanks on behalf of our "communications" team - our Matador editor, webmaster and server "guru"; the women who go through applications for classroom needs and those that contribute funds so that our teachers have what they need to teach our children.

I could go on and on - there are many, many that have not been mentioned - but we do have space restraints. My point is, that it takes an entire community to make Murchison the wonderful school that it is - please take time to thank those that give their time and boundless energy - I am just the "organizer"

Have a wonderful Winter - and Go Mats!

Cathylynn Brown,
PTA President

Stay Connected at MMS

Go to www.murchison.typepad.com for school news and information from our administration and staff.

Go to murchisonpta.org for ongoing and updated PTA news.

Subscribe to the PTA weekly and/or bi-weekly announcements by sending a message to mms-subscribe@carstenson.org.

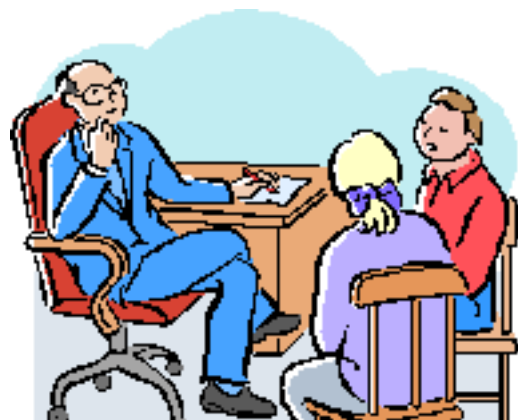
To unsubscribe, simply send a message to mms-unsubscribe@carstenson.org

PTA Sponsors Parenting Classes with Dr. Carl Pickhardt

All parents are invited to free parenting classes, led by locally known author and psychologist, Dr. Pickhardt. "When your endearing child becomes an abrasive adolescent, the hard half of parenting begins," states Pickhardt.

Check the pta website for details, but classes are expected to start Monday, Sept. 21 at 7pm in the library. This is the 3rd year the PTA will host these monthly discussions with Pickhardt.

Contact AnnHoward with your questions ahoward10@austin.rr.com



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

December 7, 2009

October 12, 2009

November 10, 2009

November 25-27 (Thanksgiving)

Theatre Production Receives Raving Reviews

Murchison's Theatre Production Class brought the audience to their feet for not one but two standing ovations after their "Superior" performance of *Star Tracks: The Exposition Menace*. The show was amazing and the judge, Mr. Kris Andrews, had this to say during his glowing critique:

- "Amazing! Amazing! Amazing!"
- "Brilliant work today! Just brilliant!"
- "Dedication, commitment...that's what you have and it showed today."
- "This is what a well rehearsed play looks like."
- "All of you were 100% "on" the whole time."
- "Your set was 100% out of control."
- "I forgot to critique; I just got lost in the show."
- "The script itself is funny but what you turned it in to was fabulous."

The following students received medals for their outstanding work:

Gold Medal for Outstanding Lighting Crew Member - Claire Dollen

Bronze medalists for their roles as Technicians - Mariana Alves, Lilly Brown, Claire McCorquodale, Britta Garza

Silver Medalist for her role as Counselor Joy - Cecily Tye

Gold Medalist for his role as Captain Smirk - Travis Weaver

MMS Dance

On October 16, over 500 Murchison students began a long weekend by attending the first dance of the '09 - '10 year. Great music from our D.J. and sparkling lights filled the large gym with dancers while the small gym hosted a variety of game tables, Twister, ping-pong and the writing wall.

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped make this event so successful! Parents donated their time selling wristbands, collecting donations, decorating for the evening, and working during the event. IB Students also assisted in the collection of donations during morning drop off. We are very grateful for the many bottles of soda and candy bars that were contributed!

Thanks to Mrs. Cartwright, Mr. Hewlett, Mr. Musfeldt, Officer P and her security team for their attendance.

Please mark your calendars for our winter dance which will be on Friday, **February 26**.

Dance Co-Chairs

Jeanmarie Rust, Janet Hendren, and Jean Cornett
jrcornett@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE GROUNDS

The drought spell is broken that's actually the most thrilling news I want to shout out . . . though I know, you all know it's such a relief for all of us
and what a joy to watch it all turn green again and to see, how much we could keep alive!!!!!!!!!!!!



However, it's so important to look ahead and prepare a smooth transition of my committee for next year, in order to keepsake what we have accomplished and so many of you truly enjoy.

I suggest to split this committee into "sub-committees", so that no single job appears to be overwhelming and keeps you away from stepping up:

this is what I have to offer:

- spearheading the Green Fridays (once a month work with a small group of students during the school day all around in the beds to keep the landscaping growing and weed free);
depending on your schedule possibly set up a Saturday workday for major projects, asking for parent - and student volunteers
- "water (wo)man": maintain hoses, soaker hoses and other watering devices throughout the ground; check and program the sprinkler system on a regular basis;
organize repairs where necessary; organize a volunteer group for watering throughout the summer
- spearhead two plant sales during the school year (fall and spring), cooperate with green team on this
- be the godmother or -father of the potted plants in the courtyards
- spearhead a group that looks into water saving devices to be installed around the school
- check on the trash cans out on the grounds on a regular basis; check on the lost and found on a regular basis (cooperation with the office student volunteers)

Please, please consider to step up for one of these jobs. We have accomplished so much and it would mean the biggest reward for me to see we have enough people to save this treasure, while I move on to Anderson next year.

Early commitment leaves us sufficient time to get trained in your single area.

green greetings and happy holidays,

Henrike Belz

buildings and ground chair 09/10



Matador Club Funds Teachers' Needs

Chair: Linda Geller

Wow! We have gotten great support from our families for the Matador Club/Teacher Needs this year. A BIG thank you to everyone on this list. So far, we have received \$10,133.00 from 293 donors! What a wonderful way to start the year for our teachers, staff and especially our kids!!

Anna & Dennis Abbott, Charles & Ellen Abernathy, Mike & Patti Abkowitz, Gene & Kate Acuna, John & Colleen Adamo, Shannon Adams, Breece Adams, Kathleen Bird Adler, Stephanie Easterday, Dan & Susie Allen, Rosental & Claudia Alves, Eleanor & George Amaro, Brian & Beth Anders, Susan Anthony, Michael & Pamela Armour, Jeff & Lisa Avra, Paul & Kathryn Baffes, Rand & Jan Bamberg, Ann Baran, Mike & Kim Barnes, Lori Baze, Allison Lowery, Biff & Faires Beale, Henrike Beiz, Stacy Tolley, Lisa A. Bilnoski, Chris & Suzanne Blackburn, Nadine Blakely, Doug & Jennifer Blount, Gordana Barcanski & Michael Momayezi, Daniel & Shirley Bouvier, John & Anna Breed, Robert & Susan Brennan, Ernst Breternitz, Liza Brinkmann, Kirk & Jacqueline Broaddus, Thomas & Michele Brocato, Beth S. Brode, Bill & Dawn Brooke, Cathylynn & Charlie Brown, Richard & Elaine Brown, Karen Hansel, Laura Fernandez-Burnett, Bryan & Jennifer Burrows, Lynn & Melissa Butler, Coni Butler, Jim & Jill Butler, Tim & Susan Cahalan, Scott & Susie Calvin, Mitchell Campbell, Jerry & Kelly Capps, Ken & Julie Carothers, Mike & Diane Carter, Christine M. Erdman, Collin Chan & Kawa Candy Cheng, Allison & Michael Chase, Brian & Teresa Clement, Arnie & Susan Cohen, Randy Collier, Allecia Remington, Donna Conkle, Jay & Marsha Conner, David Cox, Keith & Melinda Crawford, Tina Crisara, Rebecca Hall, Rich & Katherine Culleton, Mike & Becky Cunningham, Mike & Leslie Currens, Aaron

& Tanya DaMommio, Jenny Daniels, Cheryl Danks, Brian & Michele Dare, Susan Daugherty, Dara Myers, Timothy DeFries & Larayne Dallas, Paul Defuria, John & Elaine Demyers, Mila Dinglasan, Harland & Alicia Doak, Michael & Claudia Dollen, Paul & Shawn Dubiel, Michael & Mary Duffy, Joan & Teresa Duncan, Gary & Solange Dunman, Daniel & Diana Dworin, David & Monica Edelman, Mick Edwards, Mark & Debra Ellsworth, Jeff & Carol Engeling, Paul Enos & Colleen Enos, Scott & Dianne Fish, Keith & Narda Fisher, Roxana Flores, William Fordyce, Jennifer & David Frame, Ken & Sarah Frankendorf, Juana Frausto, Patrice & Chris Jones; Andy Freeman, Marjorie Mulanax & Craig Fultorpe, Anh Truong, Joe & Desiree Gaines, Diane P. Garcia, Steve Garza & Sherry Kvale-Garza, Jorge Felipe Garza- Garza & Aretina Z. Garza, Linda & Robert Geller, Howard & Amy Gillespie, Jack & Maureen Gindler, Cathy & Wesley Glazener, David & Bethany Gonzales, Brett & Yvette Goodman, Michael & Tranelle Gordon, Roger Graham, Valerie & Joel Granoff, Katherine Gray, John & Mary Greening, Don Grefe & Janice Pierce, Carl & Susan Gusler, Colleen O'Heren-Hale, Donald & Susan Hammond, Jeree Hanavec, Erik & Monica Harris, Kyle & Cherie Harvey, Rebecca & Russell Hayhurst, Judy Okimura, Ray & Janet Hendren, Maria de la luz Cruz, Daniel & Susan Hill, Kelle Hand & Don Hinckley, Randy & Sarah Holmes, Stephen & Bree Howard, John & Ann How-

ard, Jeff & Nina Thomason, Craig & Shari Jankosky, Ken & Karen Jeffries, Carl & Annie Johnson, Stewart & Sharon Johnson, Karen Jones, Stephen & Janelle Journey, Christopher J. Jurgens, Brian & Mary Karotkin, Christopher & Macy Kauffman, Bob & Lisa Kaufman, Joel & Margaret Kenty, Tammy Kimmelman, Mike & Vicky Knox, Dana & Anne Kolflat, Thomas Kristek, Beverly & Raymund Kuenast, Eric & Bonnie Lang, Gary & Coco Ledyard, Junghoon Lee & Mijung Kim, Kevin & Ellen Lee, Bill & Karen Lemens, Richard & Kathryn Lewis, Thomas Gay & LouAnn Lindley, Margaret Lopez, John & Christi Luper, Carlos Machado & Adriana Martins, Keith & Janet Mahler, Art & Maria Martinez, Arturo & Michelle Marinez, Cristina & Juan Carlos Marinez, Brian McCabe, Leigh McCann, Dori McConnell, Annette & Tim McCormick, Joel McCorquodale, Mark & Melissa McDermott, Ed & Jessica McGlynn, Toni & Larry McIntosh, James McLean & Gentry Crook, Bruce & Maeson Mealey, Jeffrey & Susan Meitz, James & Beth Menke, Robert Milne & Pamela Moore, Rod & Pat Minford, Lisa Mink, Romaine White, Dean & Tereasa Montemayor, Charles & Melissa Montero, Glen & Lesley Morehead, John & Cherilyn G. Mosley, Timothy & Angela Nash, Stuart & Suzanne Newberg, John & Deborah Newton, Tracey Nichols, Mike & Amy Niemann, Cathy O'Connell, David Onion, Billy & Vicki Osherow, Brian & Laura O'Toole, Tom & Cathy Painter, Wayne & Ilene Pappert, Angie & Brett Payne, Richard & Kim Payton, Hector Perez, Judy Perrin, Steve & Christie Pfenninger, Steve & Mona Phillips, Anthony & Teresa Pierce, Jake & Jill Player, Rob & Izabela Price, Judy Pumphret, Mary Pydyn, Monie & Rob Rainer, Sean Ramsdale, Kevin Raper & Laurie Domino, Joyce Fossmeier, Robbie Rivero, Lonnie & Ronda Roach,

Billy & Lee Robbins, Jose & Jasmine Rodriguez, Howard & Vana Rosenblatt, Myra McIlvain, Aida & Carlos Rubin de Celis, Scott & Jeanmarie Rust, Steven & Deborah Sands, Michael & Deena Santori, Barbara Sassen, Albert & Pamela Satterfield, Holly Schneider, David & Rosa Schnyer, Dan & Jodi Schrobilgen, Jeff Seibert & Jill Martin Seibert, Eyal & Ada Seidemann, Greg & Patti Shannon, Robyn Shapiro, Jeff & Emily Shapiro, Michael & MeiBth Shepherd, David & Donna Shoemaker, William & Suzanne Skalaban, Betsy Hebert, Rebecca Moon, Trevor & Amy Smith, Jayna Judd, James & Nancy Sneary, Doug & Lucy Sommerdorf, Holly Sparkman, Merritt & Jill Spencer, Jim & Ellen Spiller, Steve & Cachele Spinn, Ronald & Tracy St. Pierre, Brent & Susan Stahl, Scott & Dana Stebler, Doug & Julie Stoakley, Martina & Robert Sutton, Cathleen & Patrick Sweeten, David & Sonia Swenson, Jim & Margaret Talbot, Arthur & Mary Talley, Chuhua Tian, Wimberly & Michael Tribble, Craig & Killie Trinidad, Michael & Susan Truesdale, Kevin & Debbie Tye, David & Tracy Urban, Juan Urrutia, Gary & Julie Vander Stoep, Brian & Lorraine Vassberg, Kevin Vaughn & Maggie Dostal, Laura Ver, Alain Vigne, Larry & Tina Wallace, Jim & Lori Webster, Phillip & Honey Weinstein, David & Jeanmarie White, Matthew & Elizabeth Whitehead, Henry & Brenda Wickes, David & Melanie Wilkes, Michael & Stacy Wilkins, Kimberly Rutledge, Gregg & DeeDee Wilson, Sabine & Karl Wimmer, Will & Linda Wofford, Lee & Glynis Wood, Dave & Beth Yanke, John & Becky Yatsu, Greg & Julie Yeric, Camy Young, Mitch and Jeannette Young, Mary Elizabeth Young, Bobby & Jill Jamen, Changqing Zhang, Bill & Debbie Zukauckas, Norberto Zylberberg

Fall Fest Thanks!

Friday the 13th was the perfect day to celebrate Fall Fest at Murchison! The night was full of fun for the entire family, and the proceeds from the festival will go towards funding all our teacher and PTA needs for this year.

Parent Booth Chairs

Susie Allen
Karen Baker
Suzanne Blackburn
Faires Beale
Marilyn Butler
Deborah Ellsworth
Desiree Gaines
Suzanne George
Kelle Hand
Kathy Lewis
Beth Menke
Teresa Montemayor
Christie Pfenninger
Mona Phillips
Bobbie Pyka
Monie Ranier
Kim Straub
Sheena Walter
Chris White
Anabel Woodmansee
Susan Yenzer.

MMS Club Booths

IB
Dance
Cheerleaders
German Club
Newspaper/Yearbook
Ultimate Frisbee

Fall Fest Volunteer Committee

We could not have accomplished such a feat without all the volunteers on our committee that helped put the festival together:

Ann Berry, Lisa Bilnoski, Jenny Blount, Shirley Bouvier, Tom Davidson, Jenny Frame, Jessica Friedlander, Valerie Granoff, Cherie Harvey, Sharie Jankowsky, Bonnie Lang, Jill Moore, Susan Onion, Robin Shapiro, Mary Trautman, Honey Weinstein, Dee Dee Wilson, and Julie Vander Stoep. Thank you for all your hard work!

Raffle Winners

Bradz Salon & Spa Basket - Carol Engeling
Date Night Basket - Caroline Frankenfeld
UT Basket - Adam Newberg
Buck's Bike & Helmet - MacKenzie Taylor
Electronics Basket - James Mitchell

Special Thanks

A big thank you to the Boy Scout Troop 454 sponsored by Riverbend Church, our MMS parents Melissa & Mark McDermott, Dan Hill, Doug Blount and Gary Bernstrom for helping set up our Fall Fest carnival!

Before our event even started, Murchison parents rallied and donated sodas, water bottles and Pringles for our booths. Then, throughout the evening we had parent volunteers and students from Anderson High School help run each booth and work security. Thank you to these numerous individuals who donated items and gave of their time to help the festival run smoothly!

Fall Fest Sponsors

Fall Fest makes a profit because of the generosity of these sponsors. When you can, please patronize these businesses and thank them. Let them know how much we appreciate them by giving them your business!

Presenting Sponsor

Austin Orthodontic Arts – Drs. Hime and Salome

Business Sponsors

Powell, Ebert & Smolik, PC; Julie & Bob Schriber; Capps Law Firm; Avenue One, Lori Galloway, Nancy McCarroll, Joanne Senyk; Blackerby Violin Shop; Bradz Salons & Spas; Bob & Mike's Chicken; Buck's Bikes; Capstar Lending Home Loans; Casa Chapala; College Nannies & Tutors; Discount Electronics; Huntington Learning Center; Jim Jim's Water-Ice; Ramsay Orthodontics; Schlotzsky's; Terra Burgers; Access Door Systems; Arbor Animal Clinic; Austin Duck Adventures; Austin's Pizza; Karen Baker; Basic Rental Service; Borcanski/Momayeze Family; Calendar Club; Dart Bowl; Far West Optical; Freytags Florists; Garden Spot Cafe & Catering, Inc., The Ellsworth Family; Gatti's; Pam Greenstone, MA, LPC; HEB Grocery; Hempstead & Associates; JCAA; Kevin & Ellen Lee; Jessica McGlynn; Mesa Ranch; The Monogram Lady; More Space Place; Northcross Suites Hotel; Opal Divines; Pappadeaux; The Phebus Family; The Pumphret Family; The Stoakley Family; Taco Shack; The Vander Stoep Family; Wendy's; The Wood Family; Marc Worob, DDS, Zoes Kitchen; Boulevard Grill; The Hub; La Salsa; Quiznos; Regal Gateway Theatre; Starbucks.

Final Thanks!

Last, but definitely not least, a big thank you to Ms. Cartwright, Cathylynn Brown (her pinch hitter Mo Gindler), Cathy Painter (and her pinch hitters Ashley BeeBee and Michelle Martinez), and the great staff and teachers of MMS for all your support! And a BIG shout out to Dave Gonzales for his tireless help in making this all happen!!

Many thanks to those of you who may have been missed in this list! We greatly appreciate everyone's support in making this year's 2009 Fall Fest such a success!!

Pamela Armour, Erin Halligan & Vicki Osherow
Fall Fest Co-Chairs





Our New IBMYP Director Leads an Incredibly Bountiful List of Programs

What does IB mean to you?

IB (International Baccalaureate) IS THE SOUL OF MURCHISON'S CULTURE

- THE WHOLE CHILD MATTERS
- BROAD INTELLECTUAL EXPERIENCES TIE LEARNING TOGETHER
- REAL WORLD CONNECTIONS PROMOTE GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY!

Murchison is fortunate to be one of only two AISD Middle Schools offering an

IB Middle Years Program. This year, Ben Newton became Murchison's

new IBMYP Director. He has been leading many activities and programs for our students, parents and teachers at Murchison and in our community. Each Tuesday lunch, he meets with students in each grade to work on IBMYP Projects and activities. But there is so much more that the IPMYP offers our school.

GUEST SPEAKER STUDENT/PARENT LUNCHEONS

On the first Tuesday of the month students and parents meet with a special guest speaker during their regular lunch period. In October, Mary Priddy from Austin Energy showed us that Recycling 1 ton of paper saves 17 trees + 2 barrels of oil + 41 kilowatts of energy + 3.2 cubic yards of landfill space and can power a home for 6 months and Recycling 1 Can will save enough energy to run a TV for 3 hours!

In November, one of America's most decorated WWII Veterans, Frank Denius, shared his war experience and showed us the real meaning behind celebrating Veteran's Day. He told us "war is not a video game. Veteran's Day is symbolic of the sacrifice American soldiers have given for their country so we can all have a great life of freedom in America." Alan Graham, the Founder of Mobile Loaves and Fishes, showed us what one man and a vision can do to help homeless people have a home. His dream was to build a community of habitats on wheels by subsidizing low-cost homes for the homeless. "A home is where people can lay down at night and be safe. It's a soft bed, not the hard ground," he said. They currently have 40 travel trailers that have lifted 50 people off the street and 18 trucks that serve food and clothing to the estimated 4,000 homeless people in Austin.

In December, we'll have guests from Heifer International and in January, Mike O'Krent, the Founder of Life Stories Alive, will speak.

MURCHISON FOOD DRIVE JOINS AISD "SOUPER BOWL" DRIVE

Each year, Murchison runs a very successful year-end community service Food Drive Project benefiting the Capital Area Food Bank. For this school-year, AISD kicked off a district-wide 'Souper Bowl' Food Drive that takes place in January and February. Our MMS students were polled during their IB lunch-time, and are all very excited about moving the Food Drive and competing with the other schools!! Our student body is already energized to exceed last years' record donation of 3,297 pounds of food. We are gearing up for an even bigger turnout this year as we strive to become the top donating AISD school for 2010! MORE TO COME IN THE NEW YEAR ... contact Beth Jordan (Lead Parent) for additional information at Beth_Jordan@dell.com

CULTURAL KITCHEN - YOUTH HOSTEL DINNER

On Saturday, February 27, students will help plan and prepare an international dinner to be enjoyed with the guests of the Hostelling International Austin educational organization at their location on the shores of Lady Bird Lake. It is a fun evening of interaction, activity, and discussion with the guests at the hostel. This project is available to 10-15 students who are able to commit some prep work. Members of the Youth Hostel program will come to MMS in February to explain the hostel program, help students select a country, and summarize the preparation for February 27. Please contact Jill Seibert jillms@prismnet.com if interested.

BORN TO HELP ACTIVITY DAY

“Born to Help” is a small, privately run non-profit organization that provides assistance to refugees here in Austin. Murchison Students are encouraged to come join the fun in planning and participating in this Saturday event. It will be an action-packed Activity Day to be held at Murchison, and will include a “goodie bag” supplies drive as well. This takes place in the Spring. The Date will be announced soon.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION - APRIL 22

Since the first Earth Day, April 22, 1970, this day has been an annual event for people around the world to celebrate the earth and renew our commitment to building a safer, healthier and cleaner world for all of us. Murchison is getting involved ... and our IB students will lead the way!! Students will be planning activities and coordinating with other teams within Murchison for a week’s worth of events.

Dana Bushong (Co-Lead Parent): dana.bushong@gmail.com

Beth Rowan (Co-Lead Parent): browan@proedinc.com

AN EVENING OF IB - May 4, 2010

Join us for a night celebrating our students and their IB achievements.

WITH GRATITUDE FOR STUDENT AND PARENT SUPPORT!!!!

TEAM MATADOR WALKED, AND WALKED, AND WALKED TO HELP MANY IN AUSTIN

For the first time, Murchison IB organized a team of teachers, staff, parents, and students to support those in need through participation in various charity walks/runs. Students, parents and teachers represented Murchison and walked in 8 Charity Walks in October and November, including the Livestrong Challenge and Komen Race for the Cure.

HOLIDAY ORNAMENTS BENEFITTED WHOLE PLANET FOUNDATION

Students participated in a service project, making holiday ornaments to be sold at Whole Foods Gateway location, with 100% of the proceeds to benefit the Whole Planet Foundation. Whole Planet Foundation is a private, non-profit organization established by Whole Foods market that empowers entrepreneurs throughout the world with microloans.



Ben Newton, MMS IBMYP Director,
with guest speaker



Ben Newton, Frank Denius, Guest Speak/WWII
Veteran, and Jill Seibert, IBMYP Chair.

Fine Arts Institute Corner

MURCHISON MIDDLE SCHOOL
FINE ARTS INSTITUTE



The Murchison Fine Arts Institute consists of all the programs at Murchison Middle School who are a part of the Fine Arts – Art, Dance, Music, and Theatre Arts.

The Fine Arts Institute logo is a flame centered on a shield. The shield represents the forward advancements made everyday in humanity as “man the maker”. The flame represents an everlasting impact for creativity, energy, and source of light as the arts influence our culture around us in an everlasting manner. Four strips located under the flame represent the four areas of the Fine Arts (Art, Dance, Music, and Theatre Arts) and how each is equally important to our understanding, interpretation and expression of the world around us. Our Murchison orange represents energy, fire, healing, and empowerment. Murchison gold represents power, strength, value and justice.

Check out our homepage:
www.murchison.typepad.com/finearts

Up Coming Fine Arts Institute Events:

12/2	Beginning Band Concert at MMS PAC
12/7	Orchestra Concert at MMS
12/8	Band Winter Concert (7 th /8 th Graders) at Anderson HS PAC
12/9	Dance Show at MMS PAC
12/10	Choir Concert and Art Exhibit at Northwest Hills Church
12/11-12	All-Region Band Clinics and Concert at Hendrickson HS PAC
12/14	Band Pictures (during classes) at MMS
12/15	Choir Pictures (during classes) at MMS
12/16	Orchestra Pictures (during classes) at MMS

Murchison Partners Spotlight Recognition !

The Fall Murchison Partners' Spotlight shines on one of our new '09-'10 partners, Schlotzsky's Deli located at Balcones Woods Drive and Rt. 183 (southbound access rd). Michelle Mendez, Schlotzsky's Manager at the Balcones Woods restaurant, was looking for ways to better connect with the neighborhood and to participate more closely with the Austin schools. Her energy and enthusiasm were instrumental in kicking off several wonderful fundraising opportunities for Murchison. Together with her Manager, Jayson Murphy, and Focus Brands Austin Catering Manager, Misty Malnassy the following programs were put into action this year with Murchison:

- Monthly donated Teacher Appreciation Sweets Trays
- Student of the Month Free Sandwich Cards for every recognized student!
- Donation of 1400 bags of potato chips for Fall Fest with 100% of profit going to the PTA
- Monthly Fundraisers, first Saturday of every month 20% of all Murchison sales are donated back to the PTA

Please join me in thanking this wonderful partner for supporting our school. They welcome our ongoing business, so stop in and tell them you are from Murchison Middle School !

Mary Ann Auster, MMS PTA Partners in Education Chairperson
maryann.auster@sbcglobal.net

Only 6 more Schlotzsky's/MMS PTA Fundraiser Saturdays remaining (first Saturday of every month) ... simply pick one to attend and tell them you are a Murchison family!

Dec 5	Feb 6	Apr 3
Jan 2	Mar 6	May 1

Murchison Partners Spotlight reconocimiento!

La caída Spotlight Murchison Partners 'brilla en una de nuestras '09-'10 nuevos socios, Schlotzsky's Deli ubicada en Balcones Woods Drive y RT. 183 (RD de acceso hacia el sur). Michelle Méndez, gerente Schlotzsky en el restaurante del Balcones Woods Drive, estaba buscando maneras de conectar mejor con el vecindario y para participar más estrechamente con las escuelas de Austin. Su energía y entusiasmo fueron instrumentales en dando inicio a varias oportunidades de recaudación de fondos maravilloso para Murchison. Junto con su manager, Jayson Murphy, y marcas se centran Austin Catering Manager, Misty Malnassy los siguientes programas se pusieron en marcha este año con Murchison,

- Mensual donaciones Agradecimiento a los Maestros Dulces
 - Bandejas Estudiante del Mes Sandwich gratis Tarjetas para todos los alumnos reconocido!
 - Donación de 1400 bolsas de papas fritas para la Fiesta de otoño con el 100% de la ganancia va a la PTA
 - Mensual fundraisers, primer sábado de cada mes 20 % de todas las ventas de Murchison son donados a la PTA
- favor únase a mí para agradecer este magnífico interlocutor para apoyar a nuestra escuela.

Dan la bienvenida a nuestro negocio, así que venga al restaurante y les dices que son de Murchison Middle School!

Mary Ann Auster, MMS PTA Socios en la Educación
maryann.auster@sbcglobal.net

Solamente hay 6 mas sabados de Schlotzsky's/MMS PTA fundraiser (primer sábado de cada mes) ... simplemente escoger uno para asistir y decirles que son una familia Murchison!

5 de Diciembre	6 de Febrero	3 de Abril
2 de Enero	6 de Marzo	1 de Mayo

Fall Calendar

December 4	Student of the Month 8:30a.m. Room 111
December 9	Staff/Teacher Luncheon
December 14	Parenting Class with Dr. Pickhardt - Noon
December 16	IBMYP Advisory Meeting 8:00 a.m. in Room 11111
December 18	Winter Break Starts for Students
January 5	School Resumes
January 5	Principal Coffee - 8:30 a.m. Room 111
January 18	No School
January 19	PTA Meeting - 8:30 a.m. Room 111
January 21	Science Fair
January 27	IBMYP Advisory Meeting - 8:00 a.m. Room 111
February 2	Principal Coffee - 8:30 a.m in Room 111
February 4	Support Staff Appreciation Luncheon
February 5	Student of the Month (Dec/Jan) - 8:30 a.m. Library
February 8/9	Choice Sheet Night
February 9	CAC Meeting - 3:45 Room 111
February 11	NJHS Trip
February 12	No School
February 15	No School
February 16	PTA Meeting - 7:00pm Library
February 24	IBMYP Advisory Meeting 8:00 a.m. Room 111
February 26	Winter Dance

[Participants should confirm game dates, times and location with their directors/coaches.]

Inside This Issue

- Parenting Teens Seminar
- Join Murchison Matador Club
- Fall Fest Volunteers and Sponsors are Needed

E. A. Murchison Middle School PTA
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