



SECONDARY SCOOP

APRIL 2011

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Newsletter of the Massapequa Jr/Sr HS Parent-Teacher-Student Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

After a very long and cold winter, the crocuses and daffodils are beginning to pop out of the ground. What a great sight!

Budget discussions are now in session and this year, more than any other, it is extremely important that taxpayers attend the Board of Education budget sessions. This is where we have the opportunity to be informed about the strategies our school district is considering to address the impact of cuts in state aid and the impact of tax caps. In addition, there are two open positions for Board of Education members.

January has come and gone with the testing of our students. As they prepare for June testing there are some fun activities to partake in. The Prom Fashion Show is on April 6th. Students have signed up to be models and we will be selling tickets at the door. On April 11th we will have a Reflections Awards Ceremony to acknowledge all the students who participated. The first Battle of the Bands is scheduled for April 29th. Announcements will be made in school regarding ticket sales and tickets will be available at the door.

Elections for next year's PTSA officers will be held on May 9th. Nominating forms are included in this issue as well as forms for PTA awards. Once the slate is announced in April, it will be posted to the website. Our website is now linked to the school district's website. You can access it under the "communities" tab or directly at www.massapequaptsa.com.

I look forward to seeing you at our events and meetings. Enjoy the spring!

Debbie Austin
President

Jr/Sr HS PTSA Executive Officers

President	Debbie Austin	797-0652
Executive VP	Valerie Sullivan	795-1839
VP Membership	Denise Weiss	797-5152
Treasurer	Donna Sayrafe	799-2150
Rec. Secretary	Susan Palladino	799-0518
Corr. Secretary	Dan Batik	799-0273
VP Berner MS	Bonnie Goess	541-1714
VP MHS Ames	Donna Mazzeo	804-5767
VP MHS Main	Amy Forzano	799-9551

**MASSAPEQUA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MASSAPEQUA, NEW YORK**

Office of Curriculum and Instruction

The Massapequa High School Course Content Booklet has been reviewed by the Curriculum Office as well as by the Curriculum Associates, High School faculty and Administration. Several new courses have now been approved by the Board of Education.

- **College Algebra and Trigonometry:** (Mathematics Department) This course will provide a rigorous option for students entering their fourth year of mathematics, having already taken Intermediate Algebra, or who have not demonstrated mastery of the Algebra 2 / Trigonometry curriculum. Through our established partnership with Molloy College, students may take the course for 3 college credits. Students who have not yet passed the Algebra 2 / Trigonometry Regents Examination will be encouraged to take and be appropriately prepared for the assessment in either January or June in order to earn a Regents diploma with advanced designation.
- **Mathematics Applications for Business:** (Mathematics Department) Offered as an extension to Pre-College Algebra, these students would continue, through this half-year course to practice, enhance and apply the essential mathematical skills used in business and consumer settings, i.e. accounting, finance, insurance, etc. Students may opt to earn 3 college credits through our partnership with Molloy College.
- **Introduction to Law III: Public Advocacy:** (Social Studies Department) This half-year course will allow students the opportunity to explore social issues that often inspire and involve students in community service through active research, mock trials, field trips and community service activities. Rather than simply seeing community service as something they “perform,” students will actively examine and address essential questions and the root causes of many social problems.
- **Sports in American Culture:** (Social Studies Department) This half-year elective will provide students insight to the nature of various sports and their impact on our society from historical and contemporary perspectives. The course will examine the relationship between sports and issues such as race, gender, ethnicity, nationalism, popular culture and the media. Additionally, students will explore career opportunities of the sports world both on and off the field.
- **Anatomy and Physiology (S.C.A.L.E.):** (Science Department) To be incorporated into the Health Career Academy, this course would allow seniors who have completed Chemistry, as well as Anatomy and Physiology the opportunity to earn eight college credits as they engage in this rigorous full-year course. In the first semester, students engage in in-depth analysis of the structure and function of the human body and mechanisms for maintaining homeostasis, including study of cells, tissue, and the integumentary, skeletal, muscular and nervous systems. Semester two expands upon the endocrine, cardiovascular, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, urinary and reproductive systems, as well as development and inheritance, metabolism, fluid electrolyte balance and acid-base balance.
- **Meteorology:** (Science Department) This half-credit elective would be offered to 9th grade students at the Ames campus who have successfully completed Earth Science. Following in-depth analysis of atmospheric study, students will engage in active-learning of weather forecasting techniques. Students will read and interpret weather maps, surface and upper air data, as well as computer forecasting models. Students will also participate in an in-class forecast competition using real-time weather data.
- **American Sign Language IV:** (LOTE Department) Full-year course for students continuing the ASL sequence, where students will explore the arts, literature and history of the Deaf Community and further their use of the target language for in-depth discussions and conversation. We are anticipating that students will have the option to earn six college credits through St. John’s University.
- **Mandarin Chinese III:** (LOTE Department) Full-year course for students continuing the Mandarin Chinese sequence where listening, speaking, reading and writing will continue to be developed and expanded. Chinese history, culture, social issues, travel, entertainment and business will be introduced and applied through field trips and video-conferencing connecting student learning with Chinese communities, creating an authentic learning environment.
- **Video Game Design:** (Technology Department) This full-year high school elective will afford students the opportunity to learn computer gaming and programming in a 3D, object-oriented environment utilizing educational software developed by Carnegie Mellon University. The course will integrate business concepts including marketing, consumer research, critical problem-solving and management to complement acquired technical skills.

The emphasis this year is to provide rigorous and relevant curricular modifications and offerings that address the needs and interests of a wide range of students. We are continuing to assess what courses have been successful and meaningful in helping our students achieve their goals, while looking to their futures in incorporating curricula that inspires the use of technology and 21st century skills. Expansion of the Academies as well as the continued exploration and future implementation of International Baccalaureate will remain at the forefront of our efforts, in addition to the on-going assessment of our support and enrichment, and accelerated programs.

**Prom Fashion Show
April 6, 2011 @ 7:30pm @ MHS**

On April 6, 2011, at 7:30 pm, at the MHS Main Campus, Massapequa Junior/Senior High School PTSA will host its Annual Prom Fashion Show to raise money to honor graduating seniors with monetary senior awards. Eleventh and twelfth grade students will model elegant designer gowns generously provided by La Chic Boutique, and classic tuxedos provided by The Men's Warehouse.

The entire community, family and friends is invited to join us (with their cameras) in the beautifully decorated and transformed gym at Massapequa High School Main Campus to enjoy this event. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased on March 29 and 30 at MHS Main Campus.

Tickets are also available in advance by calling Terry Yard Healy at 516-457-0090 or can be purchased that night at the door. There will be raffles of terrific themed baskets, as well as the traditional grand prize raffles, which will include a very generous jewelry gift certificate and a barbecue!

A special thanks is given in advance to all local businesses for their generous contributions toward this student award event!



MHS Battle of the Bands 2011!

PRIZE FOR WINNING BAND

CONTACT MRS. SUSAN CASTALDO @ 516 799-1479

**SAVE THE DATE :
April 29,2011**

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Ticket Price: \$5.00

Ticket sale date to be announced

****Text voting for your favorite band****

The Nominating Committee will be meeting shortly to select the Slate of Officers for the 2011/2012 school year. According to Article VII, Section 2 of our unit’s bylaws, a person shall not be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office. Of the current members of the Executive Committee, only our treasurer, Donna Sayrafe, has served two consecutive terms. It should be noted, however, that each position is open for election. It should also be noted that Massapequa High School – Ames Campus is a one year position. All other current officers are eligible to serve a second term.

Please send your nominations for the following officer positions to Maureen Geier, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, by either e-mail to mbgeier@aol.com or by mail to 70 Florence Avenue, Massapequa, New York, no later than April 1, 2011. Your input is greatly appreciated.

PRESIDENT: _____

EXECUTIVE VP: _____

VP--MEMBERSHIP: _____

VP—MHS MAIN: _____

VP—MHS AMES CAMPUS: _____

VP—BERNER MS _____

RECORDING SECY: _____

CORRESPONDING SECY: _____

Teen Issues-Breaking the Barrier is an informational session to be held on Saturday, May 14th from 12-4 PM, at the Bar Harbour Library. It will provide parents, and students alike, with suicide awareness and ways to help teens cope with everyday issues. Presentations and informational materials will come from Yes Community Counseling Center, Pride for Youth, Ballys Total Fitness Clubs, Long Island Crisis Center, The Red Cross, South Oaks, Pure Tranquility Massage, and many other community health and wellness facilities.

Free door prize tickets, and drawstring bags, with the logo “Teen Issues-Breaking the Barrier,” will be distributed to participants (while supplies last). Prizes are donated by local businesses such as Best Buy stores, MHS school store, Sergios Restaurant, and gift cards from many other local merchants.

Although parents have the primary responsibility for the health of their children, schools and communities are vital forces in reinforcing that role. The community seeks continued improvement in all school health and welfare practices to better the lives of children. This event helps support that position.

Lisa Corradi Health and Wellness Chair
 Susanne Smoller and Mark Koenigsmann Committee Members

Calendar of Events

Prom Fashion Show	April 6, 2011
SEPTA Gen Meeting	April 7, 2011
MHS Musical	April 8, 2011
	April 9, 2011
BOE Public Session Budget Disc.	April 9, 2011
Jr/Sr PTSA General Meeting	April 11, 2011
BOE Public Session –Budget	April 14, 2011
MHS NHS Induction	April 28, 2011
Battle of the Bands	April 29, 2011
BOE Public Session Budget Hearing	May 5, 2011
Jr/Sr PTSA General Meeting	May 9, 2011
BUDGET VOTE	May 17, 2011
SEPTA General Meeting	May 24, 2011
Transition to College for Seniors	May 25, 2011
MHS Senior Awards	June 1, 2011
Honors by Achievement in Art Awards	June 9, 2011
MHS Final Exams Begin	June 13, 2011
Berner Grade 7 Awards	June 13, 2011
Graduation	June 27, 2011

Massapequa Junior/Senior PTSA
 Massapequa High School
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Secondary Scoop
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