



Volume 3 , Issue 1

## Student Representative to the Board of Education



Congratulations to Samantha Padovano who is now the Student Representative to the Board of Education. The student representative to the Board is a valuable source for improving the operation of the district. The representative will gain experience in the governing process and have opportunities to contribute to the future direction of the district.

Samantha states, “The Student Representative Position requires both a love for helping and leadership, and I feel that the high school, and its programs were able to teach me that. I know to take charge, and how to express others concerns, and that is important when it comes to the Board and the students’ relationship. This school has been able to give me skills that I use for the rest of my life, and this position will allow me to give back to the school and its students.

The Student Representative to the Board of Education must have the following qualifications:

1. Be a member of the MPHS student body for at least two years.
2. Be in good standing with grades, attendance and discipline.

Students that were interested in the position submitted an essay describing why they feel they would be the best pupil for the position. These essays were reviewed by the Selection Committee comprised of the Principal, Assistant Principals, Director of Special Services and a teacher. Recommendations will be made by the committee to the Superintendent of Schools.

## Guidance Corner

On Wednesday October 16th, freshmen will be taking the Pre-ACT; sophomores and juniors will be taking the PSAT’s. The underclassmen can prepare by utilizing the resources provided on both the College Board and ACT web-sites. [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org); [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

Juniors and seniors, take advantage of a great opportunity to explore college options by meeting with the admissions representatives from various colleges and universities. A listing of colleges and dates can be found on Naviance, the school web-site, our front sign, and in the Guidance Office.

## September

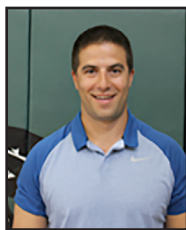
- 5 7th Grade Chromebook Assembly
- 6 Grade Level Assemblies
- 10 Underclass Photos
- 12 Back to School Night 7:00 pm
- 18 PTA General Meeting 7:00 pm

## October

- 1 Mykee Fowlin Presentation  
(Grades 6-12) 9:15 - 10:30 am
- 4 Arel Moodie, Motivational Speaker  
(Grade 12) 9:00 - 10:30 am
- 6 Music in the Park 1:00 pm
- 7-11 Week of Respect
- 11 Holocaust Presentation (Grades  
11-12) 8:15 - 9:00 am
- 16 PSATs (Grade 9-11)
- 18 Pep Rally
- 21-25 Violence Awareness Week
- 21 Holocaust Presentation - Isabella  
Fiske (Grade 8) 11:30 - 12:30 pm
- 22 Healing Space Assembly 17  
Financial Aid Night 7:00 pm
- 23 Children’s Therapy Center Field  
Trip (grade 7) 11:30 - 2:45
- 26-28 NYSFBC Championships in  
Syracuse
- 29 Underclass Photo Make-up Day



## New Staff Members



**Matthew Jimenez**

*Physical Education Teacher*



**Brianne Taylor**

*Language Arts Teacher*

## MPHS Earns Record AP Scores

Twenty-nine MPHS students have been named as Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars, resulting in a new school record of achievement in this challenging field. Our school posted 9 AP Scholars with Distinction; 9 AP Scholars with Honors; and 11 AP Scholars. Students achieved an 93% passing rate, and we congratulate our teachers and students on an amazing achievement.



# Meet Señora Ptak

Señora Ptak was born of immigrant parents and raised in Paterson, New Jersey. She considers that her experiences in an urban center had a profound effect on her life and desire to study foreign languages. She grew up in a language rich environment. There were many languages being spoken in the environment all around her. In addition to that, her father spoke four languages and her mother was bilingual. Her language programs in high school were very enjoyable having the opportunity to study Spanish, French, Italian, and Latin and she fell in

love with the Spanish language and Hispanic culture. It was in high school that she decided to become a World Language teacher as she viewed her language teachers as some of the best in the profession. They set a high professional standard for her, one that she wanted to emulate in her own life. Montclair State University was the setting for her undergraduate studies completing a B.A. in Spanish and Education. From there she moved on to New York University and la Universidad Complutense de Madrid for graduate studies. A few years later she completed her certification in teaching English as a Second Language at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

As a teacher, she believes all children should be encouraged from a young age to discern where their talents lie and find what they can be passionate about that will be beneficial to themselves. They should be supported in this endeavor and be encouraged to share their passion with the rest of the world.

There are two teaching moments that stand out to Señora Ptak as being favorite aspects of her job. The first is the creativity required to create her lessons. The second is when the language just flows from a student spontaneously. It's very rewarding to experience this progress on the part of her students.

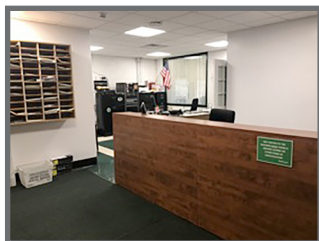
## Check Out the New Courses

MPHS continues to provide new courses to meet the needs of our students. This year we will be offering several new classes to our students:

- Financial Literacy is a 7th grade exploratory class taught by Mrs. Kuperus.
- Genius Hour is a 7th grade exploratory class taught by Ms. Victory
- Digital Photography 2 is a semester class taught by Mrs. Devereaux

## New Security Procedures Instituted at the High School

A security vestibule was create in the lobby of the high school. When visitors enter the building they will be asked if they have an appointment before being buzzed in through two sets of doors. All visitors are held in the lobby then cleared to enter the main office. Visitors must present a valid driver's license for security check-in. The reconfiguration of the main office and lobby ensures improved security procedures.



## Music in the Park XXII

This year's much-anticipated marching band competition for the Donald S. George Trophy took place on the MPHS Stadium Field on Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm. Sixteen area high school bands were scheduled to participate in this exciting annual event.

