
THE NEWSLETTER OF DAMASCUS HIGH SCHOOL PTSA

Volume 5, Issue 1

October, 2009

From the Principal's Desk...

We have had another great opening! Students appear to be very comfortable and I am pleased to see many smiles on their faces. In August, we welcomed approximately 350 new ninth grade students and have approximately 1410 students enrolled in DHS. We also welcomed five new staff members, and we are excited about the energy that they bring with them. They are:

Ms. Bitler - Science

Ms. Brown - Math

Ms. Mc McCormick - Digital Photography and yearbook

Ms. Parrish - Social Studies and Special Education

Ms. Schley (returning from leave) – Photography

Last year, our students had a very successful one.

- 48 % of our students made the Honor Roll
- 87-92% of students made C average or better each marking period
- 75% students successfully completed an AP/Honors course
- 58% of seniors successfully completed an AP course
- 95% of sophomores took the PSAT
- 80% seniors took the SAT with an average score of 1605

Our school objectives for 09/10 are:

- 90% passing Algebra, English10, Biology, and NSL HSA assessments on 1st attempt and 100% by the time they graduate
- 90% of our students will be eligible each marking period
- 77% of students successfully completing an Honors/AP course
- 79% of seniors taking SAT with an average score of 1646

I also encourage you to read the DHS webpage, to sign up to receive the daily announcements, and to attend PTSA meetings in order to keep better informed. I look forward to a highly successful year with you and your students. We will continue to demand our students do their best!

Robert Domergue

Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

Early Dismissal at 11:40 - Oct. 2

No School - Oct.16, Nov. 2

Spirit Week - Oct. 17-23

Homecoming Dance - Oct. 24

Grade 9 Parent Meeting - Oct. 7

Grade 11 Parent Meeting - Oct. 29

Grade 10 parent meeting - Nov. 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2	Congratulations!!
3	Important Notes
7	Mark you Calendars
18	From PTSA's President
19	Calendar

From the Principal's Desk... (CONT.)

CONGRATULATIONS to the following DHS Students



National Merit Semifinalist

Julie Eisenberg Katherine Stansell

Maryland Distinguished Scholars Finalist

Gwendolyn Cannon Julie Eisenberg
Brian Van Doren

Maryland Distinguished Scholars Semifinalist

Sara Bleistein Michael Giroux
Lauren Koeritzer (Vocal Music) Frank Rumore
Kevin Sanders Katherine Stansell

Maryland Distinguished Scholars Honorable Mention for Achievement:

Silvia Argueta	Emily Buras	Sara Caporaletti
Vivianne Dagher	Lauren Doresey	Brian Fowler
Mary Henningsgaard	Hannah Hensman	Erika Hoffmeier
Rachel Ibers	Hina Ijaz	Jessica Kaufman
Jessica Kim	Mindy Markman	Kelsey Marshall
Emily McIlvried	Chelsey McMinn	Amanda Mey
Danielle Moreau	Dana Ng	Megan Sanquist
Kathie Sorto	Kyle Sprankle	Nicole Urps
Kelsey Watkins	Rachel Wilson	Denzel Woode

Maryland Distinguished Scholars Honorable Mention for Talent:

Emily Buras – Vocal Music Ben Constantinides – Instrumental Music
Mary Quinn – Drama Kathryn Setzler – Visual Arts

Advanced Placement Artist Displays Work

Kate Setzler, who participated in the Scholarship Art Course at Yellow Barn Studios, had her work displayed at an Artists' Reception at the Yellow Barn Studios on Sunday, September 20th.

Congratulations to Former DHS Students

Two of Damascus High School's 2006 graduates have been designated as University of Maryland Merrill Presidential Scholars: Alycia Baker and Bonnie Dux, both seniors at UMD

For more information on this program: <http://www.ugst.umd.edu/merrill/aboutmpsp.html>



Important Notes

Student Obligations

We still have approximately 200 students who owe obligations to the school. Students will not be able to attend the Homecoming Dance until their obligations are paid.

Student Accident Insurance

For those who are interested in purchasing Student Accident Insurance from United HealthCare Insurance Company, we distributed forms during the second week of school and we also have enrollment forms in our Main Office.

Free or Reduced Meals

If you qualify due to household income level, your student(s) may be eligible to receive free or reduced meals. Application forms can be obtained from the Main Office.

CORRECTION

There was an error in the Parent Handbook on page 4: Kristy Poker's e-mail address in the Handbook is incorrect. Here is the correct e-mail: **Kristy_A_Poker@mcpsmd.org**

Student Parking

- Students must have an approved parking tag to park in the student lot.
- Students are not permitted to park in any other areas.
- If someone is parked in your spot, please report it to a security staff member.
- At a minimum, students violating the parking rules risk being issued a \$25 fine and/or having the vehicle towed at the owner's expense (towing costs can equal or exceed \$100).
- Parents will be notified by letter if multiple fines have been issued.



SCHOOL RULES - A few reminders

Appropriate Attire

School is a student's work place. Student attire to school should be conservative, appropriate, and not disruptive of the educational setting of the school. Recently, staff has noticed that some of our student attire has been too revealing for school. We ask parents to speak to students and to monitor what is being worn.

Leaving School Grounds

Students must remain on school grounds at all times and must always be under adult supervision. Students are not permitted to leave school to go to the Weis grocery store. Any such action will result in detention and/or suspension. Open lunch is permitted for **seniors** only.

Parent Assistance

We need to ask for assistance from Parents/Guardians with resolving an ongoing issue. The Main Office receives a lot of requests to get messages to students and deliver lunches or other forgotten items to their students. The only way for us to carry out these requests is to interrupt classroom instruction. This is not fair to the other students and the teacher, who have a limited time in the classroom to learn/teach. Please restrict these requests to emergencies only.

Parking Illegally

Parking in unauthorized spaces on school grounds is prohibited. Students who do so may be fined or have their cars towed.

Important Notes (cont'd.)

Theft:

Students are reminded that if they have a lost or stolen item, they should report it immediately to the appropriate teacher and/or to the office. If the administration is notified immediately, it increases the likelihood of finding the missing item.

Students can avoid the loss of an item by making sure that they label and secure their own personal items and by making sure that they carefully lock their lockers. We have items found each day, but unfortunately only a few have the students' names in them. Students are not to share lockers nor tell other students their combination. The school has no insurance for lost items.

!!!!!! IMPORTANT REQUEST FOR PARENTS !!!!!!



Parents, we are asking for your assistance with our Student Emergency Information updates. Each parent is now able to make any changes or updates pertaining to their student's contact and emergency information via EDLINE. If parents do not have access to EDLINE, please call the Guidance Office at 301-253-7037 with any changes.

We are asking that parents check their student's information and make any updates necessary. This is especially important as it pertains to H1N1 school closures or other emergency situations which could occur. Below are instructions:

- Log onto the **Damascus High School web page**
- Log into **EDLINE**
- On right side under **LINKS**, click on **Emergency Information Form**
- Select student(s) name from drop down menu
- Page 1, review '**custody concerns**' and at bottom of page '**authorization for administering first aid**' and make changes as appropriate
- Click '**save and continue**'
- Page 2, **review all information** (phone numbers, address, emergency contact, etc) and make appropriate changes
- Click '**save and continue**'
- Page 3, **review all information** (hospital preferences, allergies, medications, etc) and make appropriate changes
- Click '**save and exit**'

Once you make updates via EDLINE, it immediately updates our online student information database. This will assure that we have the most current information on our student population.

Send Your Graduating Senior Love!

Remind your senior how much you're going to miss them next year by buying a Senior Ad in the yearbook. You can purchase a quarter page ad (\$75), half page ad (\$125), or a full page ad (\$235) through Mrs. McCormick. Please email her at [Lauren E McCormick@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Lauren_E_McCormick@mcpsmd.org) to get the formatting guidelines. Submit your ad before January 4th to avoid the \$20 late charges.

Montgomery County Public Schools

Complaint from the Public Process

There may be time when issues arise in your child's education that places you in disagreement with his or her school. Common examples of such issues are grade disputes, challenges around student promotions, perceived unfair treatment of students by staff, etc. In most instances, the disagreement can be resolved informally by meeting with your child's teacher or school administrator and discussing your concerns. However, if the issue cannot be settled collaboratively between the parent and the school, the Montgomery County Public Schools has a process for filing a formal *Complaint from the Public* to seek a review of any administrative decisions made by the school system staff. It is important to note that this process is not used for personnel matters, such as a teacher a parent believes should be reprimanded or fire for his or her actions. Specific complaints about staff should be directed to your child's principal who will guide you in the process of voicing your concerns.

To file a *Complaint from the Public*, you must first obtain MCPS Form 270-8: *Complaint from the Public* from either a school or online at:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/pdf/270-8.pdf>

Complete Part I, attach any support documentation or information you would like considered to the form, and return it to your child's school. The principal or designee should contact you to schedule a meeting within five days to discuss your complaint. The principal will then send you a written response to your complaint, usually within 10 days of receiving your complaint or meeting with you to discuss your concern.

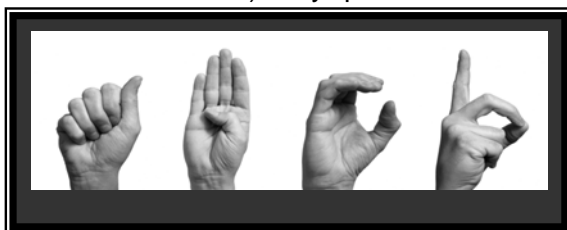
If you are not satisfied with the principal's decision, you may appeal the decision to the Superintendent of Schools and he or his designee will consider your complaint.

For complete information on the Complaint from the Public process, please refer online to:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/complaints.shtm> or view the Montgomery County Public Schools Regulation KLA-RA at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/policy/pdf/klara.pdf>

New At Damascus High School!

Are you interested in learning **American Sign Language**? Join us on Thursday, October 29th - 2:15 - 3pm Room 156 (next to the media center). Any questions? See Mrs. Grysavage in room 162.



DAMASCUS HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING INFORMATION

Homecoming activities are fast approaching, and the SGA is hard at work preparing for the most exciting week of the year! Homecoming week will include five spirit days, the window/banner/float/hallway competitions, Powder Puff football, a parade on Bethesda Church Road before Friday night's game, the crowning of the Homecoming Court, the Friday Pep Rally, and of course, the Homecoming Dance. The schedule of activities will be...

Monday (Oct 19) - Music Genres Day

Seniors: Hip Hop	Juniors: Country
Sophomores: Rock	Freshman: Jazz

Tuesday (Oct 20) - School Spirit Day, Powder Puff Game

Green & Gold - ALL Classes

Wednesday (Oct 21) - Storybook Day

Seniors: Alice in Wonderland	Juniors: Harry Potter
Sophomores: Cat in the Hat	Freshman: Goodnight Moon

Thursday (Oct 22) - Class Color Day, Hallway Night

Seniors: Red	Juniors: Blue
Sophomores: White	Freshman: Purple

Friday (Oct 23) - Theme Park Day, Pep Rally, Parade, Game, Announcement of Competition Winners

Seniors: Disney	Juniors: Hershey
Sophomores: 6 Flags	Freshman: Adventure Park

Saturday (Oct 24) - Homecoming Dance

More information about the specific events will be available soon! Dance tickets will be \$15. Sales information will be on the morning announcements. This will be an exciting and fulfilling week for the whole community! Hope you are as excited as we are!

Damascus Community News Flashes

Do you know about a Damascus student who has excelled in an area of community service or activity outside of school? Damascus High School would like to recognize these students. Please fill out the form below and return it to the Guidance Office. If there is a newspaper clipping, please attach it to the form.

Thank you so much for your input!

Name of Student: _____

Grade: _____

Community Service or Activity: _____

Brief Summary of Outstanding Effort:



Mark Your Calendars

October 14 –Special Day

Grade 12

We will be offering something especially for seniors. On October 14, our seniors will have 2 choices.

1) For those seniors who might be thinking about attending Montgomery College, they will be able to take the AccuPlacer Test free of charge. (This test usually costs \$25). The test starts at 7:25 and seniors will be able to leave school grounds when they are finished. They must return at 10:58 for classes.

The AccuPlacer is required for entrance into Montgomery College and it is designed to measure student skills and readiness for college level classes. Students who are not college ready must enroll in prerequisite courses if they attend MC. Students must pay for these courses and these courses do not count toward graduation from college. Students will be provided a review session on Oct 12 & 13 to help them understand the format of the test.

2) There will be a 3 hour computer review session on Triumph for any senior who will be taking the SAT or ACT test in November or December. This session will be designed to review and practice for these upcoming tests.



Grade 11

The PSAT is a national test administered only once a year. Juniors should take the test to assist in their preparation for the SAT. Additionally, juniors qualify for National Merit scholarships by taking the PSAT. Juniors must register for this test. Information and registration materials will be distributed in English classes before the end of September. The cost for the PSAT is \$13.00. The deadline for registration is October 8. Registration and payment is made to Mr. Ed Martin in the Career Center. After the conclusion of the PSAT, students will attend classes until the end of the regular school day.

Grade 10

Students in Grade 10 at Damascus High School and throughout the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) will take the PSAT (Preliminary SAT) during the school day on Wednesday, October 14. MCPS has made this testing opportunity possible in order to increase the number of graduates who are fully prepared for success in college-level courses. **There is no charge to students in Grade 10 for taking the PSAT. All Grade 10 students are required to attend this day.** Practice sessions will be held during classes from Sept. 29- Oct. 2

Students will be assigned to a testing room based on their homeroom assignment. The PSAT will conclude later in the morning with students then attending classes until the conclusion of the regular school day.

All Grade 10 students can greatly benefit from taking the PSAT. They not only gain valuable experience in taking a national test, but will also be provided a score report in December that fully analyzes answers and recommends specific areas of needs. This score report is a major benefit to taking the PSAT. Additionally, we use the information from the PSAT to assist students in selecting courses for the following year.

If you need further information, please call the counseling office at 301-253-7037. After the conclusion of the PSAT, students will attend classes until the end of the regular school day.

Grade 9

Grade 9 students will be participating in special activities during this day. This will start off with a special class meeting in the auditorium which will share information on several topics including Homecoming. Students will also have the opportunity to explore Career & Technology classes that they may want to take in the future.

NEWS FROM THE HEALTH ROOM

By B.J. Plesniak, RN, SCHN

Let me start out with "A Short Love Story"

I shall seek and find you.....

I shall take you to bed and control you.....

I will make you beg for mercy.....

I will exhaust you to the point that you will be relieved when I leave you....

And you will be weak for days.

All my love....

The Flu

...Don't forget to get your flu shot

- Author: Anonymous

As you all know we are anticipating an increase in the number of students & staff that will get the seasonal and/or H1N1 flu this year. We are already seeing an increase in the number of students ill with fever and flu like symptoms at Damascus HS.

MCPS is following the recommendations of Montgomery County HHS and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for the prevention of the spread of Influenza in school communities. The primary way to reduce the spread of Influenza in schools is to focus on early identification of ill students & staff, staying home when ill, covering your cough and frequent hand washing. We have developed the following guidelines:

1. Students having a temperature of 100 degrees F (37.8C) or greater with cough or sore throat have their parent's called to come and pick them up and advised to contact their health care provider for further guidance. Until the parent is able to pick the student up the Health Room staff will isolate the student in the Health Room.
2. The student should not attend school or go into the community except to seek medical care.
3. Students may return to school when they have been free of fever (less than 100 degrees F) for at least 24 hrs. without the use of fever-reducing medication
4. The student must report to the health room before attending class when he/she returns to school.

How can you protect your family against the flu?

1. Get a seasonal flu vaccine for yourself & your child to protect against flu viruses
2. Take everyday steps to prevent the spread of all flu viruses. This includes:
 - a. Cover your nose & mouth with a tissue or in the crook of your arm when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in a trash can.
 - b. Wash your hands often with soap and water especially after you cough or sneeze. Wash your hands when you get home from school. If soap & water is not available, alcohol based hand cleaners are also effective.
 - c. Avoid touching your eyes, nose & mouth.
 - d. Try to keep your child from having close contact (about 6 feet) with sick people including anyone in the household who is sick
 - e. Talk to and look at your child in the morning before sending them off to school. If they appear to be ill please keep them at home. School staff as well need to stay home if they are ill.

INFORMATION ABOUT MONTGOMERY COUNTY SEASONAL FLU CLINICS

Montgomery County HHS will conduct the following seasonal flu clinics:

- Oct. 31, 2009, 10AM to 2:00PM at the Silver Spring Health Center, 8630 Fenton St. 10th floor Silver Spring, MD
- November 5, 2009, 8:30AM to 12:00noon, at the Germantown Recreational Center, 18905 Kingsview Road, Germantown, MD
- November 12, 2009, 4:00PM to 7:00PM at the Univ. of MD at Shady Grove, 9630 Gudelsky Drive, Bldg. II, Rockville, MD

These clinics are for middle and high school students, as well as adults.

Health Education Announcement

Parents of Students taking Health Education Fall 2009-Spring 2010:

The Family Life school-community planning group for Health Education will be held on Tuesday, October 27, 2009 from 3-4 pm in room 121. Parents of students that will be taking health education either this fall or in the spring should attend if they'd like to be on the committee.

The Family Life unit is scheduled to begin on November 30, 2009 and the Disease Unit is scheduled to start on December 21, 2009.

The Family Life meeting to go over the curriculum will be held on November 10, 2009 from 7-8pm pm in room 121.

Parents that are interested in being on the school-community planning group should contact Mrs. Baggett-Stone at judith_l_baggettstone@mcpsmd.org

Music Notes



Congratulations to the following TEN students that made the Montgomery County Honors Chorus (MCCYC):

Emily Buras	Lauren Koeritzer
Paul May	Samantha Melkonian
Emily Mize	Jade Mollard
Jordan O'Brian	Amani Pierce
Nick Stamos	Heather Stuart

Special congratulations to Lauren Koeritzer who was a Semi-Finalist in the Maryland Distinguished Scholar Talent in the Arts Competition for Vocal Music

Upcoming Performances you don't want to miss:

- ◆ -October 28 7:00 p.m. Orchestra, Chorus, and Jazz Band Concert
- ◆ -December 1 7:00 p.m. Orchestra and Chorus concert
- ◆ -December 2 7:00 p.m. Band and Jazz Band Concert

Yearbooks on Sale NOW!



Don't miss out on the Damascus High School 100th Anniversary Commemorative Yearbook. This will be our first ever FULL COLOR yearbook, so it will be beautiful! The price is \$75 until January 4; afterwards the price will rise to \$85. Please send checks or cash to Mrs. McCormick in room 149 or send to the main office in her mailbox. Checks should be made out to "Damascus High School" Or, you can go online to www.yearbookordercenter.com and type in our order #5039. There is a \$3.50 processing fee, so send your checks in quickly! Please email Mrs. McCormick with any questions: Lauren_E_McCormick@mcpsmd.org

From the Social Studies Department



We are very fortunate to welcome a new teacher to the Social Studies department: Ms. Amy Parrish. Ms. Parrish teaches US History and NSL Government. She is also helping the Special Education department. She is working hard to provide quality instruction.

On September 17, the Social Studies department celebrated Constitution Day. This was easy to do in NSL Government classes since most of the course is devoted to understanding our Constitution. In US History classes, students looked at the role the Constitution has played in promoting change and social justice. In Modern World History classes, students examined the Constitution in the context of world civilizations. Elective Social Studies classes found their own unique ways to connect the Constitution to courses such as Law, Economics, Philosophy, AP US History, AP European History, Sociology, Psychology, AP Psychology, and

Comparative Religions. The Constitution is the foundation of our government and our society so it behooves us to study it.

In September, Social Studies teachers also took their classes to the auditorium to get pictures taken for purchase, yearbooks, and ID badges. Students need to carry ID badges with them during the school day and show them to get reduced admission to extra-curricular events. IDs are also necessary to ride the Ride-On or Metro bus for free between 2:00 and 7:00pm. Make-ups and retakes are scheduled during student lunch on September 24th and October 29th.

Several Social Studies type opportunities are now available to students. If your student is interested in politics and is a Senior they should see Mr. Mosier in room #252 for information about becoming a page to the Maryland General Assembly. If selected, the student can observe the Maryland legislature at close range and make valuable contacts that can be helpful in furthering careers. If your student prefers national or international politics, she/he might want to attend the Global Young Leaders Conference where they can meet Washington insiders and study government at work. Again, see Mr. Mosier for more information. If you have any questions about the Social Studies program, please do not hesitate to call your student's teacher or Mr. John Mosier at 301-253-7072.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION on H1N1 FLU

Stop the spread of germs that make you and others sick!

Cover your Cough



Clean Your Hands



Public Health officials are concerned that H1N1 flu could potentially develop into a more severe strain this fall. Therefore, it has been necessary for every school to prepare for the possibility of having to close for some period of time during an outbreak, and for ways to continue teaching and learning.

A variety of methods will be used to communicate information such as Connect-ED, Edline, letters, MCPS Website, and Damascus High School Website @ www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/damascushs. **It is very important that you provide the school with the most up-to-date contact information.** In addition, you can also receive important school system wide messages by signing up for the MCPS QuickNotes e-mail service and Twitter messaging service through the MCPS website @ www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org. Our plan for possible school closure is listed on the DHS webpage.

Help DHS by Signing Up

The following programs are designed to give back to schools. Please support DHS by signing up through local stores or the web links provided below. You may contact the DHS Business Office for more information.

Giant A+ BonusBucks

School ID #00780

<http://www.giantfood.com/aplus>

Program Period: 10/9/09 - 3/25/10

Must re-designate DHS each year (only 20 have enrolled as of 9/25/09)

LAST YEAR, DHS RECEIVED \$512 IN CONTRIBUTIONS.



School ID #70046463

5% Back to Schools Program (on qualifying student school supplies)

<http://www.officedepot.com/specialLinks.do?file=/promo/backtoschool/5percent.jsp>

Program Period: Ongoing

EVERY TIME YOU SHOP AT OFFICE DEPOT, REMEMBER TO GIVE OUR SCHOOL ID#.



eScrip/Safeway

Group ID #6493754

<https://secure.escrip.com/jsp/supporter/registration/step1.jsp>

Must re-designate DHS w/Safeway each year -- Please renew soon for uninterrupted contributions.

LAST YEAR, DHS RECEIVED \$672 IN CONTRIBUTIONS.



Target: Take Charge of Education

School ID #58234

<https://sites.target.com/site/en/corporate/page.jsp?contentId=PRD03-005174>

Donates 1% of Target REDcard purchases made at Target stores and at Target.com

Donates ½% of Target Visa purchases made elsewhere

There are currently 94 people who have designated DHS. Please make sure your card is enrolled in the program.

LAST YEAR, DHS RECEIVED \$2,371 IN CONTRIBUTIONS.



Ohiopyle Prints/MyTown Originals

Have you noticed the Damascus spirit wear at our local Weis store? If you purchase an item, please feel confident knowing that we are receiving a portion of those proceeds.

LAST YEAR, DHS RECEIVED \$190 FROM THIS PROGRAM.

Sociology class community service project (10th Anniversary)

"Helping Make A Difference In The Lives Of Others"

For the past 10 years, the Damascus High School Sociology class, taught by Mr. Robert Dickie, has participated in community-oriented service projects. This year, the Sociology class is trying to help by working on 4 major projects. If/when possible, we are asking that school families, their relatives, friends, neighbors, etc. try to help if/when they are able. Any amount of assistance anyone could offer these organizations would be greatly appreciated.

The Projects benefiting particular groups include: {Collecting between NOW & Dec. 11}*

- I. "Project Linus" = Creating and collecting festively decorated home made blankets for children in hospital cancer wards. (Please log on to <http://www.projectlinus.org> to see how you can help!)
- II. "ConKerr Cancer" = Creating and collecting festively decorated home made pillow cases for children in hospital cancer wards. (Please go to <http://www.conkerrcancer.org> to see how you can help!)
- III. "SanMar Children's Home" = Collecting new clothes, art/office/school supplies, gift cards & certificates for a children's home in Boonsboro (Washington County), MD. (Please go to <http://www.sanmarhome.org> to see how you can help!)
- IV. "Salvation Army's Winter Assistance Program" = Collecting clean & serviceable warm new and used blankets & winter jackets (which will be given, not sold, to the needy).

* Because of concerns for allergies, blankets and pillow cases for the children with cancer need to be made in a smoke-free environment.

**Donations can be dropped off in Mr. Dickie's room, #134, at DHS.

***These organizations also accept checks to help with needed programs and services (send directly to them, not thru the school).

Continuing with a previous service project, the Sociology class will also collect...(thru 12/11)

- Old cell phones to donate to 'Secure The Call', a non-profit organization that gives the cell phones to places such as battered women's shelters, senior centers, local law enforcement, etc. (<http://www.securethecall.org>)
- Dead small electronics batteries.
- Burnt out CFL (spiral, energy efficient) light bulbs. [Those three items have parts that contain heavy metals which can contaminate our water supply]
- Old prescription eyeglasses to donate to the Lion's Clubs "Gift of Sight" program, where they match a donated pair of glasses to a person in need who cannot well afford a pair of glasses.
- Empty computer printer inkjet cartridges (DHS can earn some funds by recycling them).
- Campbell Soup Company product labels (Campbell's, Swanson Foods, Pepperidge Farms, V-8) which will be sent to Damascus Elementary School to help them raise funds.
- Plastic grocery bags, to be recycled
- Non-perishable food items for a local Tri-County Food Bank (and when the winter holiday approaches, new un-wrapped toys for needy area children in our county & state).

**Donations & Recycled items can be dropped off in Mr. Dickie's room, #134, between NOW and Dec. 11, '09.

These worthy service projects will be worked on by students who will be volunteering their time and efforts, without reward...they choose to help because it is the right thing to do, and they are able to help, rather than for SSL hours which they do not earn. They help to be helpful to others who are in greater need.

Please try to get your workplace, house of worship, sports team, youth group, etc. to help make people aware of the needs of others, and how they can help.

"Everyone is capable of being helped, because everyone is capable of helping."

➤ plaque seen at UMD, attributing the statement to the Rev. Dr. MLK

For more information on any of these projects, please see the available websites, or contract Mr. Dickie at Damascus HS



Athletic Booster Club Membership Form Damascus High School

To the Parents of Student Athletes:

The Damascus High School Athletic Booster Club is a non-profit organization comprised of dedicated parents, guardians, alumni, coaches, teachers, school administrators, and community members. The Athletic Booster Club supports **ALL** teams and athletes at DHS.

Our goals and objectives are to:

- Help maintain and improve the athletic facilities at DHS
- Support and recognize the efforts of our teams and athletes
- Provide additional opportunities to our teams and athletes not funded by MCPS
- Have on going dialogue with the community, increasing awareness of DHS Athletic events

Accomplishments of the 2008 - 09 school year:

The Athletic Booster Club helped to purchase a new **weight rack** for the weight room which is used by P.E. students as well as all athletic teams, a new **scoreboard** in the large gym, a new **net for the baseball batting cage**, a **discus cage** for track and field, and new **tennis nets**, among many other items. These items are not purchased by MCPS; they are purchased from our membership dues, fundraisers and corporate sponsorships.

Please help support Athletics at DHS, join the Athletic Booster Club today!

Please contact Cira T. Augerson at cirataugerson@verizon.net if you have any questions.

Your First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell/Work Phone: _____

All communication by email, provide legible email(s): _____

Student Athlete Information (all student athletes of same family attending DHS):

First	Last	Grade	Fall Sport	Winter Sport	Spring Sport

Check ONE of the following memberships:

- _____ Family Plan Membership - \$35 per family (Essential for the family of student athletes)
- _____ DHS Staff Membership - \$35 for all staff and administration at DHS
- _____ DHS Alumni Membership - \$50 for all graduates of DHS
- _____ DHS Community Membership - \$50 for any Damascus community member
- _____ Booster Patrons - \$200 includes membership, private parking at all home football games, merchandise credit, special recognition, and a one season pass for 2 adults. This membership is available to any fan of DHS! Very limited number available!

Please make checks payable to **DHS Athletic Boosters**
Mailing address: **DHS Athletic Booster Club, P.O. Box 5, Damascus, MD 20872**

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT NOTICE

FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS: Maryland Law required that school staff and parents/guardians of all students be notified prior to planned pesticide applications in the school or on school grounds, or within twenty-four hours of an emergency application. Without exception, notices will be sent to all parents/guardians and circulated among school staff members.

FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLS, HIGH SCHOOLS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE CENTERS: Maryland Law required that school-based staff and parents/guardians of middle or high school students and staff at administrative centers who wish to be notified prior to pesticide applications in the building or on the grounds must request that they be placed on the school's pesticide notification list. To do so, please fill out the enrollment form attached to this notice and return it to your school or administrative center.

FOR ALL: The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program employed by the Montgomery County Public Schools is a proactive approach to insect and rodent control in school facilities and on school grounds. The IPM program includes frequent inspections of all school facilities to look for pests and conditions that favor pest invasions. As a first step in pest control, the IPM approach employs a number of preventive strategies and alternatives for pesticide application such as: employee education, source reduction, identification of potential problem areas, and improved sanitation. Each approach is monitored and evaluated, and modifications are made if necessary. Pesticides will be used only as a last resort on in an emergency situation.

The following is a list of pesticides and bait stations, by product name and common name, which may be used in buildings or on grounds during the school year.

<u>Product Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
4-the-birds II	Polybutene
Avert cockroach bait stations Formula I	Abamectin
Avert cockroach gel bait Formula 3	Abamectin B1
Avert dry flowable roach bait	Abamectin
Avitrol	Aminopyridine
Cynoff insecticide	Cypermethrin
Deltadust	Deltamethrin
Drione insecticide	Pyrethrins
Dylox 6.2 grams	Trichlorfon
Firstline termite bait stations	Sulfluramid
Gentrol IGR concentrate	Hydroprene
Gentrol point source roach control	Hydroprene
Golden marlin fly bait	Methomyl thioacetimidate
Liqua-tox II	Sodium diphacinone
Maxforce FC ant bait stations	Fipronil
Maxforce FC roach bait stations	Fipronil
Maxforce roach bait stations	Hydramethylnon
Maxforce roach killer bait gel	Hydramethylnon
Niban granular bait	Orthoboric acid
Premise 75	Imidacloprid
Premise foam insecticide	Imidacloprid
PT565 plus XLO	Pyrethrins
Quintox mouse seed	Cholecalciferol
Ratsorb	Camphoraceous
Round up Pro	Glyphosate
Rozol tracking powder	Chlorophacinone

Shatter termide bait cartridge
Suspend SC
Talon G
Talstar Professional multi-insecticide
Termidor SC termiticide
Terro PCO ant bait
Timbor
ULD BP-100
Uncle Albert's ant bait
Wasp freeze
Weatherblok bait
ZP tracking powder

Hexaflumuron
Deltamethrin
Brodifacoum
Bifenthrin
Fipronil
Sodium borate
Disodium octaborate tetrahydrate
Pyrethrins
Disodium octaborate tetrahydrate
Phenothrin
Brodifacoum
Zinc phosphide

Ms. Terry Baumanis, Shady Grove Maintenance Depot, maintains copies of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and product labels for all pesticides and bait stations used in buildings or on grounds. If you wish to review this information, contact her at 301-670-8238.

Public comments regarding the Integrated Pest Management Program may be addressed at scheduled Board of Education meetings.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION LIST
ENROLLMENT FORM
SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CENTERS**

SCHOOL OR CENTER: _____

PARENT / GUARDIAN / STAFF MEMBER INFORMATION
(Circle one of the above)

Name: _____ Address: _____
Telephone: Day _____ Evening _____

STUDENT INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE):

Name: _____ Address: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Does the student or staff member have any known medical conditions that may be aggravated by the use of a pesticide? YES _____ NO _____

Is this information listed on your student's health card? YES _____ NO _____

Please return forms to your school/facility. The form will be kept at the school for further reference. If you require further information regarding the Integrated Pest Management program and /or notification procedures for Montgomery County Public Schools, please contact Ms. Terry Baumanis, environmental design assistant, Shady Grove Maintenance Depot, at 301-670-8238.

NAACP

I am your NAACP Parent Council Rep for the school year. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. Carolyn Gray - graycd@verizon.net
301-972-3866(Home) 240-271-9879(Cell)

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN AVAILABILITY

In 1987, The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued the final regulations for the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), 40 CFR Part 763. These regulations require Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to prepare Asbestos Management Plans for facilities that have asbestos containing materials (ACM) in them. An Asbestos Management Plan must contain the following elements:

- Results of surveys and assessments of ACM in the facility, performed by certified inspection personnel
- A detailed plan for managing ACM in the facility and timeframes for removal, if applicable
- A program for operations and maintenance activities to avoid accidental disturbance of ACM during routine maintenance and for abatement services as required
- A program for periodic surveillance of ACM and an emergency response action plan to address unanticipated problems
- Provisions for centralized coordination of all aspects of the Asbestos Program

This notification is being provided to comply with the public notification requirement of AHERA. The Asbestos Management Plan and the most recent inspection report for your school are available at the main office for review.

It is important to note that both the Environmental Protection Agency and the Maryland State Department of the Environment have indicated that the presence of asbestos-containing materials in buildings does not in itself constitute a health hazard. If the material is not damaged or disturbed, it is not a danger to workers or other occupants. The MCPS Asbestos Management Program is designed to ensure that any asbestos-containing materials remain in good condition until removed during a major renovation or modernization project.

SAT Practice Exam sponsored by Kaplan SAT Prep

Saturday, October 17th at DHS

To Sign up please fill out the form below and send it with \$5 to the DHS Office – Attention PTSA

Saturday, October 17th at 1:00pm - Practice SAT Exam at DHS - \$5 fee per student

Student Name(s) _____ Grade(s) _____

Parent Name(s) _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Please make checks payable and send to:

**DHS – PTSA, 25921 Ridge Road
Damascus, MD 20872**

★ POST PROM 2010 ★

Back By Popular Demand!! Post Prom will be held at Dave & Buster's.

Did you know that

- 90% of the Prom goers bought a ticket to the Post Prom?
- Of the 400 Prom attendees who came to Dave & Buster's, over 140 of them were still there at 5:00 am?
- We not only offered a safe and fun place to go after Prom, but bus transportation was also provided all night for \$20!!

Help us continue the tradition. How you ask?????

I. Business and Family Donation Drives....EVERY DHS family is asked to make a \$40 tax deductible donation, however any amount will be greatly appreciated. *Make checks payable to **DHS Post Prom**.* See below for mailing instructions.

II. Support Our Fundraisers

- Currently we have **Pizza Thursdays!** Hot pizza is on sale every Thursday by the auditorium. \$2 a slice or 3 for \$5.
- Look for **BINGO** in November!! Details will be announced shortly.
- Our 3rd annual **Shopping Frenzy** will take place early in December.

There will be other fundraising opportunities to come. Please consider helping the Post Prom committee.

Contact: Lisa Dinsmore at 301-253-9169 or
Kathi Van Hoesen at 301-253-2898 for more information.

To make a donation, please tear off the slip below and mail it along with your check to:
Lisa Dinsmore 9724 Dixie Ridge Terrace Gaithersburg, MD 20882

Name _____ Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Child's Name & Grade _____



From the PTSA's President...

It was great to see so many of you at the Back-to-School night on September 15th! Over 800 parents attended their student's classes and met their teachers. It is always a great way to become informed about the expectations for the school year. Please don't let your involvement end there. Consider coming to our PTSA meetings to learn what is happening in the school and how to find out about the things your students may be interested in.

We encourage all students to become involved in the many extra-curricular activities offered at DHS. All of the activities and clubs are listed with a general description and the sponsor name on the DHS website. Please take a look.

The PTSA is partnering with Kaplan SAT Prep this year. Kaplan is offering a practice SAT Prep exam on Saturday, October 17th at 1:00. The cost is only \$5 per student. A few weeks later, Kaplan teachers will be available to meet with parents and students to go over the results of the practice exam. This practice SAT exam will give students the needed experience to feel comfortable when taking the official SAT exam.

We hope to see you at our PTSA meetings. Meetings are a place to voice your opinions and get answers. By attending PTSA meetings you are also demonstrating to your child that you have an interest in their education.

We will be sponsoring and supporting events throughout the year and we hope you and students will participate.

October Events at DHS:

- October 17th: SAT Practice Exam at DHS, sponsored by Kaplan. (See attached sign up sheet)
- October 19th - 23rd: Homecoming Week, check this newsletter and the Calendar on the Website for events
- October 20th: PTSA Meeting 7pm in the Media Center.
- October 23rd: Homecoming Football Game, including Homecoming Parade before the game.
- October 24th: Homecoming Dance
- October - December: We continue to sponsor the Sally Foster Giftwrap Fundraiser. Please go to SallyFoster.com and enter Damascus High School PTSA

We welcome all parents, teachers and staff to join the PTSA this year! If you would like to join, a membership form is attached. We hope to see you at our next meeting on October 20th.

*Sincerely,
Reina Sprankle*

Damascus High School 2009-2010 PTSA Membership Form - \$25 per family

Student Name(s) _____ Grade(s) _____

Parent Name(s) _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

I would like to help with:

Short term projects _____ Staff Appreciation _____ Post Prom _____

PTSA[®]
everychild. one voice.

October

PTSA Calendar

Sun	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1	2 Early Release Day - 11:40 Senior Pictures Taken by Appointment only	3	
4	5	6 Interims Mailed Home SAT/ACT Review Session	7 5 th Grade Parent Meeting - 7pm/Auditorium	8 Fall Play - "Check Please!" 7pm/Auditorium	9 Fall Play - "Check Please!" 7pm/Auditorium	10 SAT Fall Play - "Check Please!" 7pm/Auditorium
11	12	13	14 PSAT test given to grades 10 & 11 Occupacer test given to selected grade 12	15	16 MST & Conference - No School for students	17
18 HOMECOMING WEEK	19 Spirit Day - Music	20 Spirit Day - Green & Gold Powder Puff Football games - 6pm/Stadium PTSA Mtg. 7:00IMC	21 Spirit Day - Storybook	22 Spirit Day - Class Color Hall Decorations 2:30	23 Spirit Day - Class Themes Homecoming Parade - 5:30 VFB Homecoming Game vs Northwood 6pm	24 ACT Homecoming Dance - 5- 11pm/Gym
25	26	27	28 Fall Music Concert 7pm/Auditorium	29 Underclass Picture Re-takes 11 th Grade Parent Mtg. 7pm/Auditorium	30 End of Marking Period 1	31

2009

November

Sun	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1	2 Professional Day - No School for Students	3 Marking Period 2 10 th Grade Parent Mtg.- 7pm/Auditorium	4	5	6	7 SAT at DHS
8	9	10	11 Veteran's Day Open House Report Cards Distributed to students in homerooms	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Progress Reports	25 Early Release Day - 11:40	26 Holiday - Thanksgiving Day - No School	27 Holiday - No School	28
29	30					

2009

Important Phone Numbers

Damascus High School..... 301-253-7030
 DHS FAX Line 301-253-7046
 Athletic Director..... 301-253-7050
 Attendance 301-253-7042
 Business Office 301-253-7048
 Career Center 301-253-7045
 Guidance Office 301-253-7037
 Health Room 301-253-7051
 Media Center..... 301-253-7058

Website:

www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/damascushs

Emergency Website MCPS:

<http://.mcps.k12.md.us/info/emergency>



2009 - 2010

PTSA Information

**PTSA meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month in the Media Center at 7:00 pm
An open meeting to all!**

President	Reina Sprinkle	301-253-0936
1 st Vice President	Louisa Stack	301-253-8834
2 nd Vice President	Carolyn Gray	301-972-3866
Treasurer	Kristin Tribble	301-414-2329
Secretary	JoAnn Hayes	301-528-2180
MCCPTA Delegate	Lisa Dinsmore	301-253-9169
Membership	Anja Abbott	301-482-2593
NAACP Rep.	Carolyn Gray	301-972-3866
Newsletter	Beatrice Kallungal	301-414-2334
PTSA Mailings	Laura Mainhart	301-253-0608
	Darlene Melkonian	301-253-2091
Post-Prom Liaisons	Lisa Dinsmore	301-253-9169
	Kathi Van Hoesen	301-253-2898
Scholarship Co-chairs	Mary Jean Osborne	301-482-1429
	Cathy Magas	301-253-6248
Ruth Jenkins	301-414-0353	
Special Needs	Renae Tippett	301-253-1622
Staff Appreciation	Judy Frazier	301-253-0306
	Connie Baisey	301-990-9782
Student Directory	Cathy Hocker	301-253-0590

Send NEWSLETTER information/articles via email by the 3rd Friday of each month to:
bkallungal@yahoo.com

Damascus High School
Parent-Teacher-Student Association
25921 Ridge Road
Damascus, MD 20872-1891

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 14
DAMASCUS, MD 20872-1891

**Don't Forget
next PTSA meeting
October 20, 2009**

