

Since 1999



Mare Island Technology ACADEMY

June, 2013
Parent Newsletter

“Growing great minds and caring hearts”



Turning the Corner on Another Year!

Matt Smith

As MIT enters the final weeks of the 2012-13 school year, it is tempting to think of it as the “homestretch.” But a better metaphor would be “turning the corner” – with 2012-13 on one side and 2013-14 on the other – which more correctly implies continuous movement from one phase to another. On the 2012-13 side we have the conclusion of a record-setting school year that included the following:

- Concluding the year with our highest end-of-year enrollment ever (776), along with a 98% re-enrollment rate for next year;
- Record-setting performances for the California Exit Exam (pass rates of 91% for math and 92% for English) as well as record numbers of students on the honor roll (especially at the middle school!);
- Successful new RTI programs for end-of-block, end-of-day, and “ban-the-zero” academic recovery.

And turning the corner to the 2013-14 school year, there is much to look forward to:

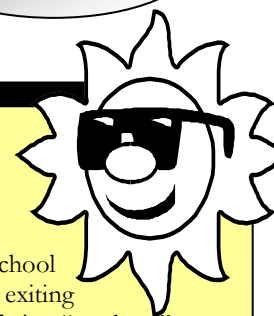
- More “alternate pathway” choices for students, including an expanded independent study program and more computer “distance-learning” courses.
- Expanded tutoring and mentoring programs;
- More advanced electives, including advanced placement Calculus, Spanish, and Chinese.
- A focus on the new Common Core Standards being rolled out nationally in 2014-15.

Sometimes turning a corner leaves one great view behind but reveals an even better view ahead, and a whole new vista of possibilities!

Important June Dates!

- W-Tu, 5/28–6/4: Scholastic Book Faire! (all week, Room Z)
- M, 6/3: VOORP Meeting, 4–5pm (rm Z)
- W, 6/5: Beautification Committee, 1:45pm (Room Z)
- Th-Tu, 6/6–11: Final exams
- Tu, 6/11: *Last Day of School! (regular schedule)*
Fiscal Committee Meeting, 3:45–4:30pm (room Z)
Board Meeting, 5:30–7pm (room Z)
- W, 6/12: No School – staff development day
8th-grade Brunch 9am, Rehearsals 10am and 2pm
8th-grade promotion, 4–5:30pm, Touro (see p. 2)
- Th, 6/13: Last day for teachers – work day / grades due
Graduation! 5:30–7:30pm, Touro University
- F, 6/14: SARB Student Review Meetings, 8am–1pm
- Mon, 6/24: First Day of Summer School! (see sidebar)

Here Comes Summer School!



As in the past, MIT will be offering a full summer school program this year, for incoming 6th graders through exiting 12th graders. Also as in the past, we will again be offering “catch up” courses in the core subject areas (math, science, English and Social Science), as well as expanded incoming 6th and 9th grade programs. Check out these summer offerings:

- *Academic Support / Credit Recovery*, various middle and high school classes to support math and English deficits. Runs 6/24–7/19 (see schedules below).
- *Blended Learning*, an educational program in which high school students can make up failed coursework online with help from an instructor. Runs 6/24–7/19 with both morning and afternoon sessions (see schedules below).
- *Bridges to High School*, incoming 9th graders and high school students new to MIT can take health and geography to get a jump on high school and complete 10 credits during the summer. Both sessions recommended. Runs 6/24–7/19 (see schedules below).
- *6th Grade Jumpstart*, a four-day fun and engaging introduction to MIT that stresses MIT orientation, basic technology skills, and team-building. Runs 8/5–8/8 from 8:30–2:00.

MIT summer school programs will run as follows:

HS Class Schedule (6/24–7/19, no school 7/4)

7:30-8:04	Breakfast (optional)
8:04-12:04	Morning Session
12:04-12:44	Lunch (optional)
12:44- 4:44	Afternoon Session

MS Class Schedule (6/24–7/19, no school 7/4)

7:30-8:04	Breakfast (optional)
8:04-8:44	Before School Program (optional)
8:44-12:04	Morning Session
12:04-12:44	Lunch (optional)
12:44-4:04	Afternoon Session
4:04-4:44	After School Program (optional)

MS Jumpstart (incoming 6th graders, M 8/5–Th, 8/8)

8:00-8:30	Breakfast (optional, drop in)
8:30-11:30	Morning Session (academic)
11:30-12:00	Lunch
12:00-2:00	Afternoon Session (fitness & games)

For more information, watch your mail, check the website, or contact Micah Studer at mstuder@mitacademy.org.

No School June 12th!

Please note the following change to the master calendar: Wednesday, June 12th is now a staff-only day, for staff development and 2013-14 planning. However, 8th grade promotion will still be on Wednesday, June 12th (at Touro) at 4:00, with 12th grade graduation on Thursday, June 13th at Touro at 5:30.

8th-Grade Promotion, Wednesday, June 12!

8th graders who have “made the cut” will be promoting on Wednesday, June 12th, at 4pm at Landers Hall, Touro University on Mare Island. Dress is formal with boys expected to wear ties and young ladies in appropriate attire (such as what they wore for their portfolio presentations). Each student will receive four tickets for preferred seating from 3–3:45pm, after which seating will be opened up for general admission (note there is no saving seats).

Congratulations to all our “promoters” and good luck in high school! (And on that note, be sure to see the summer school message!).

It's Pomp & Circumstance Time!

Fifty-four hard working young adults will have their final ceremony welcoming them to adulthood as they graduate and walk the stage on Thursday, June 13th, 2013, at Touro University's Landers Hall. These amazing young adults have done much more than the “average” high school graduate in that, in addition to earning at least 230 credits, they have fulfilled the UC “A-G” requirements, completed 140 hours of community service, a 40 hour internship, 9 college credits, and earned their way to Washington DC for the ultimate school project and fieldtrip!

Each graduate will receive 8 tickets for “VIP seating” (on the lower level); however, there is lots of quality seating on the ample second level – so all are invited and all are welcome!

DC a Smashing Success!

The “jewel in the crown” for MIT's project-based learning philosophy is the senior trip to Washington DC, which is the culminating activity for the senior government class. Seniors worked tirelessly throughout the year to earn the \$40,000 to take 47 students and chaperones to Washington for a week. Thanks to coordinators Ryan Cole and Aubrey Perry, along with Board of Directors VP Lynne Vaughn, the trip was a complete success and the kids came back emboldened by their knowledge and full of stories to tell (many of which *will* be told at graduation on June 13th!).

2012–2013 also provided proof that MIT's new fundraising structure, in which each class is responsible for earning its own way to DC, can and will work for current and future classes. Indeed, *next* year's class (Class of 2014) has already earned \$15,000 towards their DC goal, and their fundraising efforts are going strong! Good thing, too, because the class of 2014 is over 70 students – MIT's largest ever – so they'll need all the support they can get – so don't hesitate to jump right in and begin supporting them now!

2 Ways to Help the Rising Seniors!

Option 1 – Summer School Student Store:

During summer school students and staff can support the rising senior class by patronizing the student store and purchasing yummy treats like ice cream, otter pops, hot pockets, candy, soda and other delicious specialty items from them. Be sure to listen for special announcements during summer school as the rising seniors will be cooking up some unique treats! MMMM tasty!

Parents, if you would like to donate items to receive commitment hours please contact donation coordinator Miriam Ascencio or any of the following junior advisers: Stephanie Morgado, Marcus Mills, or Byron Laird. Or, alternatively, you can contact Student Store Manager Martha Rojas at martha.rojas@mitacademy.org or class President Milena Figuera at milena.figuera@mitacademy.org

Option 2 – Mountain Mike's Pizza Coupons

Pizza Lovers! Don't miss your opportunity to save hundreds of dollars at Mountain Mike's Pizza! Please see any rising senior to purchase a coupon book that has hundreds of dollars in savings for only \$20! Coupon books will be available for a limited time so don't miss your chance to save!

Counseling Corner! *With Patricia Quintana*

Register Now for College Classes!

- Attention all high school students and parents/guardians, please remember that Solano Community College has Fall 2013 registration happening now! It's not too late. Napa Valley College will be opening their Fall 2013 registration on July 23rd. Please make sure to get in your special admission form for clearance to add any course in Room J or download the forms off of the College & Career page.
- Parents of current freshman, sophomores and juniors, your student should be enrolling or enrolled in a college course in order to ensure they are meeting graduation requirements.

As for 2013-14, student schedules will be adjusted throughout the summer on PowerSchool. Please be patient as changes are being made to requests and schedules. Students who did not submit a course selection form will be assigned appropriate courses based on coursework completed and academic need, and will not be considered for schedule changes.

Congratulations MIT Valedictorians!

MIT Academy has many outstanding students, but this month special congratulations go out to our top two performing high school students, Emily Abueg and Alex Baltodano, who share this year's valedictorian honors. Both finished their MIT high school experience with straight A's (including their AP class). Emily will be taking her talents to SF State, and Alex will be one of 5 MIT students off to the University of California. Congrats to Emily and Alex and all our outstanding MIT scholars!

Uniforms Update

If you need information on MIT's new uniform policy, be sure to check our website, and/or previous editions of this newsletter (particularly the May, 2013 edition). Questions can be directed to Deb Fliemann by phone at ext 155 or dfliemann@mitacademy.org by email. Or you can simply stop by Victory Stores, 435 Virginia Street, downtown, to get all the info you need to make the right choices for the 2013-14 school year and beyond.